Trade and Industry

5 November 1976 35p

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Trade and Industry

5 November 1976

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection

A pull-out section listing the main public holidays in Europe is published this week.

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Home news

British and French ministers hold aircraft talks

M Marcel Cavaillé, the French Secretary of State for Transportation, Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State at the Department of Industry, and Stanley Clinton Davies, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department of Trade, met on 2 November in London to review progress of the Concorde project and to discuss collaboration on civil aircraft projects.

On Concorde the ministers noted the very successful entry into service of the aircraft and its wide acceptance; affirmed their determination to complete to schedule the 16 aircraft programme, while maintaining the production facilities in the best possible condition, and looked forward to the opening of further routes notably to New York, Melbourne and Tokyo.

It was agreed between Mr. Kaufman and Mr. Cavaillé that they would urge their industries in consultation with their officials to pursue their discussion into the possibility for collaboration over aircraft in the 200 (Airbus family) and 160 seats (ASMR) range.

The two ministers, having reviewed the scope for an aircraft of approximately 100 seats, noted that this was a field in which the United Kingdom would appropriately seek the lead in a single collaborative European project and one in which the French government would be prepared to consider, without commitment, participation as a partner.

The ministers of France and the UK discussed the prospects for an Advanced Supersonic Transport for the 1990s in the light of the technological advantage acquired through collaboration on the Concorde project. They agreed that in principle the co-operation in this area should continue on a basis of mutuality.

Mr Kaufman visits Bonn today (5 November) for talks on possible civil aircraft co-operation.

Government ready to help shippers: Mr Dell on more positive role

The government is prepared to play 'a more positive role' in support of the shipping industry, Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, said on 2 November.

But this must involve very close and continuing liaison between government and industry, he told the General Council of British Shipping.

'We will need to understand fully and comprehensively any question on which you are likely to want our assistance,'

'The industry's traditional freedom of action is becoming increasingly constrained by the intervention of governments overseas.

'It is becoming inevitable that in this country too, government and industry should work together even more than in the past.'

He reminded the general council that theirs was an international industry. 'There is mobility not only in its assets, the ships themselves, but in its centres of operation,' he said.

'Yours is a vital private sector industry and your investment record (though I hope more of your future orders will be placed in Britain) and your record of innovation, for example in container shipping, show the vigour that is looked for in the private sector.

'The job done by your industry is one only you can do. Nevertheless in this day and age, there may well be a larger role for government in support of your industry. I emphasise *in support* of your industry.'

Ministers and management discuss implications of Courtaulds closure

A meeting took place on Tuesday at the Department of Employment to discuss the employment and special implications of the closure of Courtaulds plants with the consequent loss of over 4,000 jobs.

Those at the meeting were Albert Booth, Secretary of State, Department of Employment, Eric Varley, Secretary of State, Department of Industry, John Morris, Secretary of State for Wales, John Concannon, Minister of State for Northern Ireland and Sir Arthur Knight, chairman of Courtaulds.

In the course of the discussions ministers asked the company if its decision to close the plants was irrevocable. The company replied that in the present circumstances they saw no prospect of changing the decision.

Ministers stressed the serious effect of the intended closures on the social structure of the affected towns and explained the likely effect on unemployment rates.

The company was urged to give its employees longer notice of its intentions than the minimum required under the Employment Protection Act.

The ministers said in view of what they had been told they would wish to consider some suitable form of inquiry into the closure programme and looked both to the company and the trade unions concerned to co-operate in such an inquiry.

The company said nothing had happened to change its attitude about any of the proposed closures. Its attitude to any inquiry would depend on seeing the terms of reference but it would expect and hope to be giving full co-operation. However, there could be no change in its intentions about the closures or their timing.

Closure of Castle Works, Flint

Bob Cryer, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Industry, met Barry Jones, member of parliament for Flint East on 28 October. Mr Jones impressed on the government the serious position following the announcement by Courtaulds of the closure of Castle Works, Flint.

Mr Jones urged that the government should consider the possibility of development area status for the area. Mr Cryer said that an application had been made and was being considered.

Mr Jones went on to ask the government to examine a possible stay of execution or the introduction of new products from the Courtaulds range and to give full weight to an application for temporary employment subsidy for Courtaulds Deeside Mill, adjacent to Castle Works.

Mr Cryer said that this was initially a matter for the company but went on to point out that but for the 1975 Employment Protection Act, which requires a 90 day notice, closure may well have been even more precipitate. However he said that the government would seriously consider all the representations and he fully understood the grave difficulties which the closures created.

Price surveys on petrol and small packs

Grants are to be made available to local authorities to enable them to carry out special surveys into the prices of petrol and of small packs of goods, Robert Maclennan, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, announced this week. He was speaking at a press conference in Gateshead after seeing the operation of a local price survey.

Mr Maclennan said: 'I am glad to take this opportunity to announce a new government initiative on local price comparison surveys. A year ago we started a scheme to provide grants for weekly surveys of the prices of food and other household necessities.

'We are now going to extend them in two new directions. First, we are going to give grants for local surveys of petrol prices. We have been trying for some time to get an arrangement whereby motorists can see what the prices are before driving in. This is indeed part of the aim of the new Voluntary Agreement on Petrol Price Display, which the Office of Fair Trading have negotiated with the trade. I now want to help motorists further, by having the prices charged at local garages set out in a way which allows the prices to be readily compared.

'Secondly, we shall be offering grants for special surveys of the prices of small packs. The regular weekly surveys concentrate on the popular sizes, but many old age pensioners do of course buy small packs. I have been concerned for some time at the greater cost of small packs, ounce for ounce. We had the Price Commission look into the problem. They concluded that, although much of the disparity was due to higher manufacturing costs, there was some scope for evening out the prices of large and small packs. They suggested that more information was needed about the relative price, ounce for ounce, of small and large packs. I am now taking a practical initiative to follow the matter further, and show pensioners where they can buy what they want most cheaply.'

Companies Registrar on results of move to Cardiff

Some 20 to 25 per cent more company registrations have been handled so far this year, compared with the same period last year. Commenting to *Trade and Industry* on the formal transfer to Cardiff of the Companies Registration Office for England and Wales, Dennis Nottage, Registrar of Companies said that, besides the greater number of company registrations this year, many people tried to anticipate the move by sending in an unusually large number of applications for the incorporation of new companies immediately before last April.

Mr Nottage said that this month the office is making a particular effort to inform companies which normally post their documents to send them to Cardiff rather than to London. But companies which prefer to deliver documents by hand may still send them to the reception point in the CRO search room in City Road, London.

Taking stock of the office's achievements now that the move has been completed, Mr Nottage commented:

'First, we have introduced a brand new system of microfiche of documents which will make the information available to members of the public within an average of 15-20 minutes of the request being made. As soon as the new machinery is properly run in, we expect to get this interval down to 15 minutes.

'The old system of hard-file searches sometimes kept a reader waiting for hours, if not days until the papers became available. Even then there were further waiting periods if more than one person wanted the papers at a time.

'Next, we have re-staged our programme for the move to enable documents to be scrutinised by my staff more quickly after their arrival at Cardiff, and so make most of them available to the public in the form of microfiche within eight to 10 working days of their receipt.

'Eventually we hope to reduce this gap to five working days, much less than it used to be before the move.

'Thirdly, we have tightened up our filing and checking procedures internally to try and ensure so far as humanly possible no errors occur when the microfiche is delivered to the reader. The editing of original files for filming showed a mistake rate of 4 per cent, which has now been corrected.

'Fourthly, we are constantly seeking the co-operation of presenters to ensure that the documents supplied to us are in a form which can be clearly reproduced. In general microfilming cannot improve on the quality of the original material.'

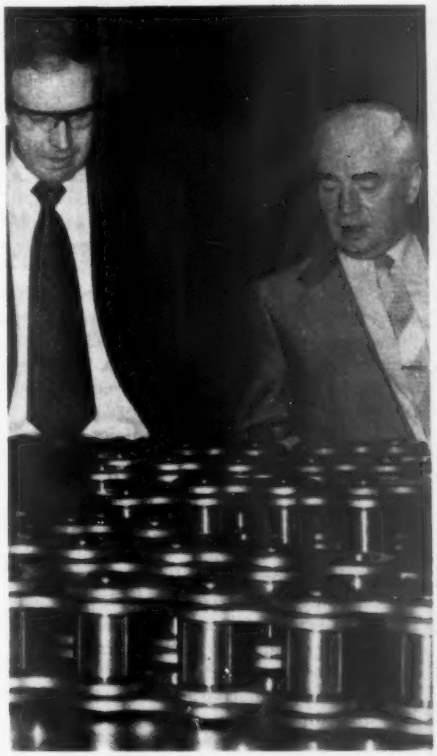
Mr Nottage said that the continued growth in the business of the office confirmed, the rightness of the decision taken some time ago to move to Cardiff and to introduce a modern system to meet the constantly increasing demand from the public for access to the information held. 'The old system of hard file search in London would by now have been completely overwhelmed, especially as I should not have been allowed, under Civil Service manpower constraints, to recruit more staff,' he said.

'The benefits of the new system are becoming more widely recognised as the backlog resulting from the move is greatly reduced.

'By the middle of next year, the move of files will be complete and I expect we shall be offering still further improvements on the timing of the service the public is receiving now.'

The Companies Registration Office is now at Crown Way, Maindy, Cardiff CF4 3UZ.

Eric Varley visits North-West region



A massive roller chain for a camshaft drive on a supertanker is shown to Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, by C. A. Percival (right), group managing director of Renold Ltd. Mr Varley toured Renold's works at Didsbury during a visit to the North-West region last Friday. He also saw examples of gears, gear units, couplings, clutches, brakes and variable speed systems manufactured by other factories in the Renold group. These were displayed in one of the Renold exhibition vehicles currently touring the UK and Europe.

Inspectors' report on Hartley Baird

The inspectors' report of their investigation into the affairs of Hartley Baird Ltd under the provisions of section 164 of the Companies Act 1948 was published on 28 October.

Mr J. B. R. Hazan and Mr T. G. Harding were appointed as inspectors on 21 September 1973 under the provisions of sections 164 and 172 of the Companies Act 1948, to investigate the affairs of Hartley Baird Ltd; and to investigate the ownership of the company, in particular the controlling interest in the company acquired by Dr William Kurt Wallersteiner and his mother, Alice Stoss, or by any company controlled by them. On 24 May 1974, Mr A. M. Troup was appointed an additional inspector.

The inspectors' report under section 164 was submitted on 31 August 1976. Their report under section 172 was published on 4 February 1976.

Copies of the report are available from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, price £2.25 net.

'More students must be encouraged into business and industry'

'We have the research and design teams, but we still need to improve in transmitting technological ideas into profitable manufacturing techniques,' said Leslie Huckfield, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Industry, on 28 October.

Earlier Mr Huckfield, who was lecturing the Institution of Mechanical Engineers in London, had pointed out that Britain had proved its ability to carry out big projects like the Advanced Passenger Train, Concorde, and the Rolls-Royce RB211.

He continued: 'Production engineers need a better place in society. They may be the "nuts and bolts" men compared with some of their more academic counterparts, but they are the men on whom Britain needs to concentrate more.

'Our universities and polytechnics last year could have taken on 30,000 more students in science and technology subjects. In May this year, according to a survey of final year undergraduates, only 24 per cent expressed their intention of going into business and industry, and of those who expected good degrees, only 21 per cent were so inclined. Though I recognise that these choices might have been affected to some extent by the current trough in the economy, this still shows we need to encourage more students to turn to business and industry.

'It starts in the schools. I believe that teachers should make more contact with those in industry. I believe that local industry should make more contact with local schools. I refer you all to the Prime Minister's recent speech on the need to produce more students and pupils attuned to the needs of business and industry.

'Finally, let me say a word about engineers and their qualifications, for this is most important. While the efforts of the Council of Engineering Institutions to revise their charter and bye laws are much appreciated – for they are making steps in the right direction – we still have a long way to go. The practical implications of their success can only be judged in the context of the industrial strategy. A strong and unified engineering profession has an obvious and central role to play.'

Heads of Valleys area factory extension brings 200 new jobs

John Morris, Secretary of State for Wales, has announced approval of a factory extension at Hirwaun, Mid Glamorgan, which is expected to create more than 200 new jobs.

The 4,645m² extension will be built onto the Welsh Development Agency factory on the Hirwaun Industrial Estate at present occupied jointly by Electronic Components Ltd and Vesta Equipment Ltd.

The two companies, together with Metal Mouldings Ltd, of Park Royal, London, will merge to form a new company, Firsteel Metal Products Ltd, and the main activity will be the production of roll-formed sections for suspended ceiling systems and other components for the construction industry. Metal Mouldings Ltd will be moving its production facilities from London to the new factory.

The extension will more than double the size of the 4,180m² factory where the present companies have been established since 1955 and now employ about 120 people. The new company is expected to export a large proportion of its products.

It is expected that the extension will be completed by June 1977.

Commenting on the announcement, the Secretary of State said: 'This large expansion is a heartening employment bonus for the Heads of the Valleys areas and is also a healthy development on the vital export front. It is particularly welcome at the present time. The package of government financial assistance which is being made available in support of project has, I believe, been a crucial factor in encouraging the company to proceed with it. This assistance includes collective aid under the Industry Act.'

Selby coalfield inaugurated – 'another success for Britain'

The inauguration of the Selby coalfield underlines three factors of enormous significance for Britain, Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, said on 29 October.

the rapidly growing strength of Britain's energy resources even after centuries of coal mining;

our rapid progress, virtually alone among Western industrial countries, towards self-sufficiency in energy in the early 1980s; and last but not least, the long term future for Britain's coal industry as an indispensable mainstay of our economy not merely for the rest of this century but also for the 21st century.

'These are three factors of enormous significance for Britain in a world which, over recent years, has come to worry increasingly about the security of its energy supplies and, indeed, how long the natural sources of energy which lie in the ground will last.

'They are factors which the world should take into account in any rational assessment of Britain's underlying economic strength.

'We are standing here today on top of enormous wealth – coal worth, at present coal prices, no less than £7 billion (thousand million). And Selby is only one of a series of recent major coal discoveries by the National Coal Board whose exploration programme has as many rigs looking for coal as there are rigs looking for oil and gas in the North Sea.

'Add these new-found reserves to what is already the largest coal industry in Western Europe and you get a rough idea of our huge energy riches, now being supplemented by North Sea oil and gas.

'But that is only the start of the story. For those, like Britain, with vast amounts of coal, have the means both to fuel and power their economy and to provide a substitute for oil and gas as fuels and as chemical feedstock.

'Selby is another success for Yorkshire, for Britain and for our coal industry.'

Japanese industrialists may locate in Wales

Senior executives of some Japanese companies visited during the Development Corporation for Wales' recent industrial development and export trade mission to the Far East, have agreed to visit Wales for talks on the advantages of locating in the principality during the early part of 1977.

Mr D. G. Badham, chairman of the corporation and leader of the mission, comments: 'I am delighted with the success of our visit and very optimistic that further inward investment will come to Wales as a result of our industrial investment drive. The attendance at our presentations of many leading Japanese industrialists was indicative of the interest currently being shown in Wales.

'Many European countries would welcome Japanese investment so there is keen competition, but Wales is regarded in a favourable light. Three of the six Japanese manufacturing companies in Britain, Matsushita Electric, Sony and Takiron, have already selected Wales as their location to serve Europe and have established factories in the principality.

'The Development Corporation's promotional programme in recent years has intensified our export drive and the Far East trade mission has made a significant contribution to this vital effort. For the first time, a trade mission has returned to Wales with potential business exceeding £4 million. It cannot be emphasised too strongly that this increase in exports will not only help improve our balance of payments but also call for more industrial output. This inevitably leads to additional employment, greater prosperity, and a higher standard of living.'

Increased benefits for offices and service industries

Greatly increased financial aid for offices and service industries has recently been announced by the government to encourage the growth of employment in the Areas for Expansion.

Now new projects set up in these Areas can qualify for the improved grants, in addition to moves by existing businesses into these Areas.

Full details of the incentives are set out in a new leaflet. To find out more about how they could apply to your company, send the coupon now, or telephone 01-211 6486 (24 hour answer service on 01-834 2026).

What are the improvements in aid?

1. An increase from £800 to £1,500 in the grant for each employee moved with his work to the Areas for Expansion (up to a total of half the jobs created in the Areas).
2. New grants of up to £1,500 for each new job created in many Areas.
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Who can benefit?

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2. Research and Development Units.
3. All Service Industry undertakings not serving primarily local needs.

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Please send me a copy of your new leaflet 'Offices and Service Industries'.

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Company_____ Nature of Business_____

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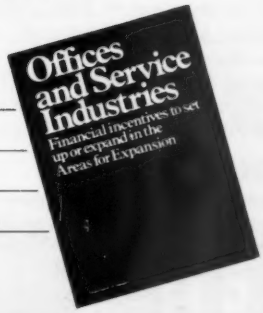


The Areas for Expansion

ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY
in association with the Scottish Economic Planning Department and the Welsh Office.

ENCIRCLE TI 246A ON PAGE 398 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

UK chairs UN maritime insurance conference in London

Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, has been elected President of the Imco Conference on the Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims at the Cunard Hotel, Hammersmith from 1 to 19 November.

The conference will consider proposals to raise the limit of liability for maritime claims to take account of inflation and the current capacity of the insurance market; to provide a special separate limit of liability for carriers of passengers which would improve substantially the position of passenger claimants; and to replace the traditional gold franc as unit of account by special drawing rights.

In his opening remarks after welcoming the representatives present, Mr Clinton Davis said speaking, to the conference of which he has become president.

'I am indeed conscious of the importance of this conference to shipowners, insurers and to cargo owners and to the many other claimants under the existing 1957 Convention on the Limitation of the Liability of Sea-Going Ships. Both on economic and legal grounds a replacement is now overdue and it is the task of the conference to produce this.

'It is my earnest hope that, with the determination to reconcile differences of view in a spirit of goodwill and compromise which has been so characteristic of Imco since its beginning in 1960, the delegations here present will succeed in adopting a convention which will be even more widely acceptable than the convention of 1957 which it will replace.'

Mr Clinton Davis then moved on to the wider field of Imco's achievements.

'To all seafarers the safety of life at sea conventions and the collision regulations are of utmost importance, as indeed, are the arrangements for traffic separation schemes soon to have mandatory effect. There is also the much needed establishment of standards to eradicate the evil of sub-standard ships.

'As a country with a very large number of merchant ships and seamen and as an island particularly at risk from pollution from passing ships, the work of Imco in the protection of the environment, and the prevention of pollution, which has followed the *Torrey Canyon* disaster, is of inestimable value. We are proud to have Imco here in London, as the one body of the United Nations with its headquarters in the United Kingdom.'

Notes

The new convention is to replace the International Convention on Limitation of the Liability of Owners of Sea-Going Ships, 1957, which came into force in 1968.

The 1957 convention established internationally the limit of ships liability, this being calculated per ship ton. The uniformity of rules means that ships are not arrested and held after an incident, as claimants can be sure of getting the same treatment in whichever contracting state the claims are heard.

This convention is now out of date, legally and economically. Legally because other and more specific conventions have been adopted since 1957, such as those on nuclear damage and oil pollution. Economically because inflation has diminished the purchasing power of the limited amounts agreed in 1957, the capacity of the marine insurance market has increased and difficulties have arisen in the conversion into national currencies of limits stated in the Convention in the terms of gold francs.

Three other conferences will be held in conjunction with the Conference on Limitation of Liability. They will revise the unit of account provisions of the following Conventions.

1 The International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage, 1969.
2 The International Convention on the Establishment of an International Fund for Compensation for Oil Pollution Damage, 1971.
3 The Athens Convention Relating to the Carriage of Passengers and their Luggage by Sea, 1974.

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Under section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the dates specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
6 October 1976		
1,044,201	The Post Office	Improvements in or relating to pneumatic self-propelled apparatus
1,063,061	The Post Office	Improvements in or relating to submarine cables
1,086,702	The Post Office	Electrical calling circuits
1,128,203	The Post Office	Improvements in or relating to apparatus for presenting each of a series of articles in turn at a viewing position
1,298,077	The Post Office	Improvements in or relating to telephone subscribers sets
1,368,093	The Post Office	Silica-based vitreous material
1,371,494	The Post Office	Apparatus and method for handling elongated bodies
1,430,979	The Post Office	Improvements in or relating to dielectric optical waveguides
1,432,139	The Post Office	Phase detector
1,435,727	The Post Office	Improvements in or relating to diffractometers
1,239,038	International Standard Electric Corporation	A device able to initially delay the opening of the pulse contact for telephone dials
1,268,038	International Standard Electric Corporation	Two-wire to four-wire conversion circuit for a data switching centre
1,389,559	International Standard Electric Corporation	Two-wire to four-wire conversion circuit
1,408,185	International Standard Electric Corporation	Resolution enhancement of image intensification apparatus
1,346,287	ITT Creed Ltd	Keyboard controlled printers
1,366,846	ITT Creed Ltd	Interlocking arrangements for keyboard telegraph machines
1,390,519	ITT Creed Ltd	Printing telegraph machines
1,369,523	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd	Lapping head
1,098,518	Hopkins and Buckland Ltd	Improvements in guards for stairs or other passage ways
1,237,557	Hopkins and Buckland Ltd	Improvements in guards for stairs or other passage ways
1,267,115	Hopkins and Buckland Ltd	Improvements in safety rails and the like
1,356,059	Hopkins and Buckland Ltd	Improvements in guards for stairs or other passage ways
954,850	Fred Pedley	Improvements in methods for welding hollow components and in apparatus therefor
1,131,428	Hamel Projektierungs-und Verwaltungs AG	Improvements in delivery rollers for textile spinning and twisting frames
1,152,236	Middleton Welders Ltd	Improvements in resistance spot welding machines
1,199,180	Carrier Corporation	Absorption refrigeration systems
1,199,992	Carrier Corporation	Absorption refrigeration systems having solution-cooled absorbers
1,200,937	Carrier Corporation	Absorption refrigeration systems having solution-cooled absorbers
1,365,295	John Vernon Buckland	Improvements in or relating to cargo, or like handling apparatus for ships
1,376,656	John Vernon Buckland	Improvements in or relating to cargo, or like handling apparatus for ships
1,405,089	PDI Ltd	Improvements in visors for fitting to crash helmets
1,405,099	PDI Ltd	Improvements in visors for fitting to crash helmets
1,290,715	United Gas Industries Ltd	Thermal actuators
1,319,590	Cheltenham Induction Heating Ltd	Improvements relating to high-frequency change-over switches
1,428,723	PSM Fasteners Ltd	Improvements relating to rivet bushes
1,435,226	The DCL Cooperage Co Ltd	Improvements relating to cooperage
12 October 1976		
990,328	Commissariat a l'Energie Atomique	Shielding plug for closing an aperture in a radiation shielding wall
1,017,819	Commissariat a l'Energie Atomique	Improvements in or relating to apparatus for cleaning nozzles or other conduits
1,032,002	Commissariat a l'Energie Atomique	Improvements in or relating to ionisation chamber arrangements
1,037,148	Commissariat a l'Energie Atomique	Device for measuring the concentration of fission products in suspension in a fluid
1,108,583	Commissariat a l'Energie Atomique	Improvements in or relating to ionisation chambers
1,134,512	Commissariat a l'Energie Atomique	Improvements in or relating to ionisation chambers
1,138,482	Commissariat a l'Energie Atomique	Device for monitoring variations of a characteristic of a fluid in a matrix of pipes
1,144,888	Messrs Griesheim GmbH	Contour – or shape-reproducing device
1,156,683	Messrs Greisheim GmbH	Vertically adjustable cutting torch holder for flame cutting machines
1,249,746	Messrs Greisheim GmbH	Power distributor for torch-cutting or scarfing equipment and the like
1,024,452	Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co Ltd	Mounting means for electrical devices
1,057 269	Societe Anonyme Automobiles Citroen	Improvements in or relating to automatic gearbox with converter
1,406,624	Viktor Bausch and Co KG	Method of covering metal surfaces by means of thermosetting plastics sheet and surface-covered metal produced according to this method

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
18 October 1976		
993,964	EMI Ltd	Improvements in or relating to ticket issuing machines
1,181,419	EMI Ltd	Improvements relating to automatic control systems for vehicles
1,202,705	EMI Ltd	Improvements relating to circuit arrangements including loop aerials
1,248,901	EMI Ltd	Improvements relating to oceanographic survey devices
1,330,294	EMI Ltd	Improvements in or relating to display systems
1,264,318	John Henry Pless	Improvements relating to the drying of lumber
1,378,150	John Henry Pless	Improvements relating to multi-hull vessels
1,389,541	John Henry Pless	Improvements relating to the drying of timber
1,296,252	Intercan SA	Improvements in or relating to packaging machines
1,297,871	Intercan SA	Improvements in or relating to apparatus for forming hollow articles made of thermoplastic material
1,294,469	The Horne Engineering Co Ltd	Improvements in or relating to thermostatic fluid valves
1,405,092	Serdex, Societe d'Etudes de Recherches, de Diffusion et d'Exploitation	Improvements in or relating to new benzothiazepine derivatives, process for their preparation and applications thereof
19 October 1976		
1,240,923	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	A device for controlling a hydraulic pressure producing ratio-shift in an automatic transmission of an automotive vehicle
1,242,288	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Carburetors for internal combustion engines
1,243,129	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Anti-theft device in a motor vehicle
1,244,808	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Internal combustion engine exhaust gas oxidising system
1,246,835	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	A carburetor for an internal combustion engine
1,253,667	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Carburetors for internal combustion engines
1,254,456	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Carburetors for internal combustion engines
1,254,457	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Carburetors for internal combustion engines
1,254,458	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Carburetors for internal combustion engines
1,258,511	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	A crankcase structure ventilation system
1,256,783	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	An automotive differential mechanism of limited-slip type
1,259,978	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	A synchronising mechanism in the transmission of constant mesh type in an automotive vehicle
1,262,575	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Apparatus for connecting a frame of a wheeled vehicle to a leaf spring of the vehicle
1,263,314	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Carburetors for internal combustion engines
1,268,103	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	A motor vehicle safety device
1,271,985	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Air-fuel mixture intake systems for internal combustion engines
1,272,257	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Line pressure control system for automotive automatic transmission
1,272,473	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	A hydraulic control system for an automatically controlled transmission mechanism for a motor vehicle
1,272,474	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	A hydraulic control system for an automatic transmission mechanism
1,274,461	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	A friction clutch for an automotive vehicle
1,276,024	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Improvements in or relating to automotive internal combustion engine throttle valve control
1,281,038	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Electronic control system for automotive automatic transmission
1,281,039	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Electronic governor for automotive automatic transmission
1,281,040	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Control system for automotive automatic transmission
1,282,310	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	An anti-skid apparatus for use in a breaking system for a motor vehicle
1,287,012	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	Manual and automatic transmissions
1,291,889	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	An anti-spin device for a motor vehicle
1,298,961	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	An ignition system
1,305,784	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	A carburetion system of an automotive internal combustion engine
1,305,991	Nissan Motor Co Ltd	A carburetion system for an automotive internal combustion engine
1,369,636	The British United Shoe Machinery Co Ltd	Improvements in or relating to the attachment of walled sole units to shoe bottoms

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patent Form No. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage
Comptroller

British Calibration Service transferred to Department of Industry

Responsibility for the British Calibration Service is to be transferred to the Department of Industry from the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection.

Announcing the change in reply to a parliamentary question from Mrs Ann Taylor (Bolton West), Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said:

'The British Calibration Service functions as a service to industry in assessing and supervising calibration laboratories. The Secretary of State for Industry has agreed with me that this function would be more appropriate to his department. With the agreement of the Prime Minister functional responsibility for the BCS will therefore be transferred from my department to the Department of Industry from today.

'Similarly, the Advisory Council on Calibration and Measurement, which supports the transfer, will in future advise the Secretary of State for Industry on the operation of BCS and other matters within its terms of reference.'

'Employing staff' guide for small firms

A guide for owners of small businesses concerned with employing staff has been published by the Department of Industry.

The booklet, written by M. J. Boella, a director of HCS (Management Consultants) Ltd, is one of a series for owners or prospective owners of small businesses. It covers the many aspects of employing staff, including recruitment and selection, induction and training, payment systems, termination of employment and the legal requirements affecting employment.

Note

'Employing Staff' – A Guide for Small Firms,' may be obtained free from Department of Industry, Small Firms Division, Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW2P 4LN (01-211 5245) or from any of the regional Small Firms Information Centres.

King & Co
Chartered Surveyors
1 Snow Hill,
London, EC1A 2DL
Telephone 01-236 3000
Telex 885485
Also in Manchester,
Leeds & Brussels.

INDUSTRIAL & COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

ENCIRCLE TI 247 ON PAGE 398 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

New prices policy must encourage profit for reinvestment

Prices policy due to succeed the present price code next August 'must offer encouragement to companies who want to use profits for reinvestment in plant and machinery'.

This was stated by Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, at the conference of the Food and Drink Industries Council in London last week.

Mr Hattersley said earlier in his speech that 'A stable pound, increasing exports, improvements in investment and reduction in unemployment could have a more dramatic and direct effect on standards of living than anything else the government might do,' he continued. 'I have always said and I will continue to say that my principal role as Minister for Consumer Protection as well as Secretary of State for Prices is to help in the creation of an economy which is strong and expanding. Nothing will stabilise prices more quickly than that.

'But saying that is not an argument against a prices policy. A prices policy can be defended on its own merits. Some of the most successful economies in the western world regard prices policy as a central element of economic management. That is why I have begun to examine the future of prices policy from the premise that the right sort of policy can make a positive contribution to economic recovery and, eventually, economic expansion.

'When I talk about price policy after the summer of 1977 I do not necessarily mean another revision of the price code', he said. 'I share the view, often expressed by my predecessor, that a price code begun four years ago and based on historical reference periods cannot be revised again in a way which is acceptable either to the government or to industry. Our attempts to modify and improve the original price code have, to an extent, been successful. It now makes allowance for industry's need to improve and increase the level of capital investment. But were it to run into a fifth year a revised Price Code would not meet all needs. After July 1977 there has to be something new.

'Obviously it is impossible for me to tell you today what the new policy will be. A number of ideas are being examined in my department. What emerges will have to be discussed with the TUC, the CBI and a host of other organisations, yours among them. All those organisations will, I know, agree with me that we need, above all, a practical policy. Theoretical precision and intellectual consistency are important to any prices policy but the final question must be whether or not it works. I am not interested in creating a prices policy which is attractive in theory but unworkable in practice.

'Nor am I interested in the creation of a prices policy which appears to achieve a great deal but in practice achieves very little. The new prices policy cannot be an exercise in public relations intended to convince the unions that we are being tough on prices as well as on incomes. A purely cosmetic price policy is doomed to failure. These days trade unions are too well informed to be fooled by paper promises. The real judgement of prices policy is not what is written in the Bill which makes it law, but how it actually affects specific prices. Of course, international and national economic forces will, in present circumstances, make a whole range of price increases inevitable whatever price policy we operate. But, government action is essential to prevent or inhibit price increases which are unnecessary or unreasonable. It is also vital, that at a time of necessary austerity, we both ensure and demonstrate that no section of society is taking cynical advantage of inflation to make unjustified profits. A new prices policy will not imply that every increase is unacceptable. But it will explain to the public why certain prices are justified and reassure them that unwarranted increases will be prevented. A sensible prices policy has much to offer producers and distributors as well as consumers.

'These assertions about prices policy are no more than a beginning. Many other decisions need to be taken. Should the new policy offer industry simplicity and flexibility or should it provide a blue-print so that uncertainty is removed at the sacrifice of flexibility? Clearly the new policy must offer encouragement to companies who want to use profits for reinvestment in plant and machinery. The present price code is a blunt instrument for achieving such an aim. Future price policy must be directed much more precisely to improving industry's capacity to compete overseas and to improve its overall efficiency. Those are hard statements of economic aims but I believe within them there is an important political, indeed philosophical point.

'We live in a mixed economy. I want the mixed economy to continue and to contain a large profitable private sector. But the mixed economy must be a partnership between the state and private companies. That cannot mean vast corporations which operate independently of the national interest as long as they pay their taxes and observe company law. Those arguments, that the government has no locus in decisions about price levels or investment, play into the hands of people who insist that the mixed economy is inherently irresponsible and will always contain firms which refuse to acknowledge their national obligations.

'Those of us who see the mixed economy as an essential feature of a free society need to make sure that the mixed economy is a responsible economy. In a responsible economy the government, representing the whole of the people, must be allowed to make judgements about the performances of manufacturing and distributive industry. That is why the next prices policy must provide some of the rules which determine the role of private enterprise within the mixed economy.'

First batch of restrictive trading agreements in service industries on register

The first batch of agreements in the service industries to be placed on the register of restrictive trading agreements by the Office of Fair Trading was made available for public inspection on 27 October.

There are now 102 services agreements on the register and these cover a wide range of industries including transport, travel, the distributive trades, finance, estate agents, advertising, sport and entertainment. A more detailed list is given on the opposite page.

On 22 March 1976 restrictive agreements relating to virtually all commercial services became subject to registration and since then over 500 agreements have been submitted to the OFT. It has not yet been possible to examine all these in detail but it is thought likely that many of the agreements will not be found to contain registrable restrictions.

The first batch of agreements to be placed on the register include a considerable number relating to charges for services. Restrictions identified so far are as follows:

1 charges, fees, prices or commission rates, etc (65 agreements), terms or conditions (25 agreements)
2 the extent to which, or the scale on which business is to be done (10 agreements)
3 the manner in which the business is to be done (5 agreements)
4 persons with whom business is to be done and the areas or places in or from which business is to be done (10 agreements)

The Director General of Fair Trading, Gordon Borrie, will now consider what action he proposes to take concerning these agreements. He has a duty to refer all registered agreements to the Restrictive Practices Court for a ruling on whether or not the agreement is against the public interest. However, if the director general considers that restrictions in an agreement are not significant enough to warrant reference to the court he may make a representation to the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection asking for a direction to exempt the agreement from Court proceedings.

Notes

The basic features of a restrictive agreement are: that two or more persons (individual traders, partnerships or companies, whether incorporated or not) engaged in business in the United Kingdom in the supply of services, are party to it; and two or more parties accept restrictions under the agreement, ie some limitation on their freedom to make their own decisions about certain matters in connection with supplying or obtaining services.

Since 1956 when the first Restrictive Trade Practices Act came into force, over 3,000 agreements covering the supply or manu-

facture of goods have been placed on the register. The great majority of these agreements have been abandoned voluntarily, while others have had the restrictions which might have been against the public interest deleted. Of the 37 cases contested before the Restrictive Practices Court, only 11 have been successfully defended as being in the public interest. There have been over 300 uncontested court hearings in which no attempt was made to justify the agreement. Directions not to refer an agreement to the court have been given in respect of over 170 agreements.

The Fair Trading Act 1973 gave the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection the power to extend restrictive trade practices legislation to services. The order bringing this into effect came into operation on 22 March 1976. This required that restrictive agreements being operated in virtually all service industries should be submitted to OFT by 21 June 1976 unless they had been abandoned by that date.

Exempt from the legislation on services are restrictions on the supply or acquisition of a range of professional services, including legal, medical, educational, accounting and surveying services and a number of commercial services such as international sea and air transport and certain activities of banks, building societies insurance companies and unit trusts.

The register of restrictive trading agreements is available for inspection between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. at the OFT, Chancery House, Chancery Lane, London WC2 and 9 Hope Street, Edinburgh. The index will be available for inspection at the Department of Commerce, 176 Newtownbreda, Belfast.

CLASSES OF SERVICES AGREEMENTS ON REGISTER AT 27 OCTOBER 2976

	Number of agreements
TRANSPORT AND TRAVEL	25
Includes:	
tug services	
stevedoring	
removal and warehousing	
driving schools	
travel	
DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES	6
Includes:	
radio, electrical and tv repairs	
tea and rice brokerage	
FINANCE	6
Includes:	
mortgage brokerage	
credit card operations	
PROPERTY OWNING, ETC	30
Includes:	
estate agency	
ADVERTISING	4
BUSINESS SERVICES	3
Includes:	
valuation	
PROFESSIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC SERVICES	3
Includes:	
design services	
CINEMAS, THEATRES, RADIO, ETC	5
Includes:	
concert and entertainment agencies	
SPORT AND OTHER RECREATIONS	10
Includes:	
football	
rugby league	
cricket	
boxing	
BETTING AND GAMBLING	4
Includes:	
pools	
bingo	
HOTELS	3
OTHER SERVICES	3
Includes:	
private investigation	
funeral arrangements	

DPCP makes two more consumer protection orders

Two orders*, one designed to ensure that consumers are not misled about their rights on faulty goods, and the other requiring most mail order advertisements to give the seller's name and business address were made on 1 November by John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

The first order will ensure that consumers are not misled about their statutory rights should the goods they purchase be faulty. It prohibits the use of notices and documents which purport to exclude those rights (eg 'No money refunded'). It also requires statements about consumers' rights against a retailer or about obligations accepted by a retailer or manufacturer should the goods prove to be faulty (eg in a guarantee), to be accompanied by a further statement to the effect that consumers' statutory rights are not affected.

The provisions of the order will come into force at different times. The prohibition of notices in shops which purport to exclude the consumer's statutory rights to redress should the goods prove to be faulty or not in accordance with description will come into force on 1 December 1976. A similar prohibition relating to advertisements or statements on the goods, containers or documents will come into force on 1 November 1977. The requirement that statements about consumers' rights on goods, containers and documents shall be accompanied by an additional statement about statutory rights will come into force on 1 November 1978.

The second order provides that advertisements for mail order transactions where prepayment is required shall state the name of the seller and the address where his business is managed. It will come into force on 1 January 1977. Responsibility for enforcing the orders will rest with local authorities.

These are the first orders made under Part ii of the Fair Trading Act 1973 following reports by the Consumer Protection Advisory Committee (CPAC) on proposals referred to them by the Director General of Fair Trading.

* The Consumer Tractions (Restrictions on Statements) Order 1976 (SI 1976/1813) and the Mail Order Transactions (Information) Order 1976 (SI 1976/1812).

Units of measurement regulations come into operation

The units of measurement regulations* made by John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, came into operation on 1 November. These define and authorise the units of the international system (SI) as adopted by virtually all countries.

This is the first time that a complete system of units of measurement has been prescribed and defined in UK law. The only previous law that prescribed and defined units is the Weights and Measures Act 1963, but this contained only those units used for trade.

The regulations authorise the units of measurement prescribed in the EEC directives establishing them as the common system of units to be used throughout the community for economic, health, safety or administrative purposes. They also set out the multiples and submultiple prefixes to be used in conjunction with the units and the symbols for the units and prefixes.

These regulations do not affect those units, both metric and imperial, which appear in existing legislation, in particular those which may be lawfully used for trade by virtue of the Weights and Measures Act 1963 and the corresponding Northern Ireland legislation. The government has announced its intention of progressively phasing out the use of imperial units as part of an orderly completion to the metrication programme and enabling powers to do this are being sought in the Weights and Measures Etc (No 2) Bill which is currently before the House of Commons.

The regulations also re-define the litre to bring it into line with the internationally accepted definition. The change in size is negligible – the newly-defined litre is some 28 parts in a million smaller. The alteration in the size of the litre has a consequential effect on the size of the gallon which is, at present, defined in terms of the millilitre. The definition of the gallon has therefore also been altered so that the gallon, will remain the same size as the present. The regulations contain a saving for contracts or agreements entered into before the regulations come into operation, even if such contracts or agreements relate to the delivery of goods after that date.

The litre and its multiples and submultiples are added to part 3 of schedule 1 to the Weights and Measures Act 1963 but remain also as units of capacity in part IV of that schedule. Although it is recognised that there is no difference between capacity and volume as physical quantities and that in the long term standardisation will take place on the litre as the unit of volume only, it is necessary as a first step to recognise the litre as unit of both volume and capacity.

* Weights and Measures, The Units of Measurement Regulations, 1976, SI 1976 No 1674, available from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, price 22p.

Clearance of mergers

Roy Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has decided, on the information at present before him, not to refer the following proposed mergers to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973:

Amey Roadstone Corporation Ltd/sand and gravel and ready-mixed concrete business of Francis Parker Ltd.

Groupe des Assurances Alsaciennes/Economic Insurance Co Ltd.

International Ferry Freight Ltd/Lovell's Shipping and Transport Group Ltd.

Post Office sa

vings stamps.

The Post Office Air Parcel Service saves you money.

If your parcel weighs up to 20kg and you want it delivered to your customer's front door, then Air Parcels will almost certainly be more economical than air freight.

We don't charge extra for handling, airport delivery or outward customs clearance. (Delivery to the customer is usually free, but some countries collect a small fee from the recipient for customs clearance and delivery.)

You'll know your cost of sending and delivery the moment you hand your parcels to us. There are no hidden charges to surprise you later.

All you have to do is fill in one or two simple forms and take your parcels to one of 19,000 post offices. Or if you are sending in bulk, we can collect from you.

Then your parcels travel as Royal Mail. Which means they go by regular scheduled flights, get priority treatment at all stages of handling, and even qualify for separate customs clearance.

We have several supplementary services such as Express Delivery, Cash on Delivery and Insurance. Overseas customs duty and other charges can be paid in advance by our F.D.D. service.

The Post Office

If you would like to know more about our Air Parcel Service, contact Bob Johnson, Room 127K, FREEPOST, Postal HQ, St. Martin's-le-Grand, LONDON EC1B 1HQ. Or telephone 01-432 4049.

ENCIRCLE TI 251 ON PAGE 396 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Licensing of estate agents

The current position on the licensing of estate agents has been outlined by John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection in reply to a recently published letter from Mr R J Stone, President of the National Association of Estate Agents.

Mr Fraser wrote:

'I would like to clear up any possible misinterpretation of the present policy position. The full licensing system envisaged in the consultative document, of course, represented a proposal rather than a firm policy, and in the light of the views we have received, a number of options ranging from a full scale licensing system to action directed more specifically towards protecting pre-contract deposits are under consideration. Thus no final decisions have yet been taken on the type and scope of regulation, and in reaching such decisions it will clearly be necessary to take into account the differing views of the various estate agency bodies, including your own, as well as other factors including the possible implications for public expenditure.

'While I would reiterate that the government continues to attach importance to action on estate agency, other demands on parliamentary time make it unlikely that any government measure will be introduced in the next session. As you say, it is now too late for Mr Weetch's bill to reach the statute book during the present parliamentary session. So far as the government's attitude to any future private member's bill is concerned that must of course depend on the particular proposals being put forward.

'In reaching a decision on both the form and details of regulations and on the government attitude to any private member's bill the points your association has made will be taken fully into consideration. In this context I might add that I was most impressed by your arguments on the need to avoid either creating a professional monopoly or imposing unnecessary restrictions on competition and entry.

'Since I see that you circulated copies of your memorandum of 12 October to all members of parliament and that the press also carried reports of it, I am proposing to make this reply publicly available.'

A consultative document containing proposals for a licensing system for estate agents and developers selling land or dwellings directly to the public was published on 26 November 1975.

A private member's bill on the regulation of estate agency, introduced by Ken Weetch, received its first reading on 7 July 1976.

New regulations on labelling of medicines

The labelling of medicines will be more stringently controlled in future. The Department of Health and Social Security announced regulations* on 28 October which set out new labelling requirements for containers and packages of medicinal products for human and veterinary use. Their main purpose is to ensure that such products are correctly described and readily identifiable. The regulations, which have been the subject of extensive consultations with all the interests concerned, were made under the powers conferred on the Health and Agriculture Ministers of the United Kingdom by section 85 of the Medicines Act 1968.

A Medicines Act Leaflet MAL 42, which gives a general guide to the regulations, is available from DHSS, Medicines Division, Finsbury Square House, 33-37a Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1PP.

* The Medicines (Labelling) Regulations 1976 (SI 1976/1726). HMSO, price 40p.

Average retail food prices on 14 September

Average retail prices of about 80 important food items on Tuesday, 14 September 1976, are shown in the table below. The Department of Employment collects these prices from 200 areas in the United Kingdom on one specific day each month for the general index of retail prices. They come from between 500 and 1,000 retailers representative of those from whom the great majority of the population make their purchases. Many of the items vary in quality from retailer to retailer and partly because of these differences there are considerable variations in the prices charged for many items. An indication of these variations is given in the last column of the table, which shows the range of prices within which at least four-fifths, of the recorded prices fell. The average prices are subject to sampling error.

Note

The current figures will be published in the October 1976 issue of the *Department of Employment Gazette*. Prices since November 1967 have been published in earlier issues.

AVERAGE RETAIL FOOD PRICES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 14 SEPTEMBER 1976
Average prices and price range (per lb unless otherwise stated)

Item	Average price p	Price range From p	Price range To p
Beef: home-killed			
Chuck	79.8	70	88
Sirloin (without bone)	128.5	100	160
Silverside (without bone)*	109.9	96	120
Back ribs (with bone)*	74.6	60	90
Fore ribs (with bone)	73.4	60	86
Brisket (without bone)	72.8	60	84
Rump steak*	149.8	120	180
Beef: imported chilled (a)			
Chuck	—	—	—
Silverside (without bone)*	—	—	—
Rump steak*	—	—	—
Lamb: home-killed			
Loin (with bone)	89.4	76	100
Breast*	27.1	20	40
Best end of neck	66.9	40	88
Shoulder (with bone)	59.4	48	70
Leg (with bone)	83.6	74	96
Lamb: imported			
Loin (with bone)	73.6	64	82
Breast*	21.0	15	28
Best end of neck	59.6	38	72
Shoulder (with bone)	50.4	42	58
Leg (with bone)	76.3	70	82
Pork: home-killed			
Leg (foot off)	66.9	56	80
Belly*	49.7	44	56
Loin (with bone)	80.7	72	90
Sausages			
Pork	41.8	36	48
Beef	37.1	32	44
Roasting chicken			
Broiler, frozen 3 lb	37.3	34	40
Fresh or chilled, 4 lb (oven ready)	41.8	36	48
Fresh fish			
Cod fillets	70.7	60	80
Haddock fillets	70.3	60	80
Haddock, smoked, whole	67.4	56	80
Plaice fillets	83.4	70	100
Halibut cuts	128.4	80	160
Herrings	32.8	25	40
Kippers, (with bone)	43.5	36	50
Fresh vegetables			
Potatoes, old, loose			
White	11.2	10	12
Red	11.8	10	13
Potatoes, new, loose	—	—	—
Tomatoes	16.7	12	22
Cabbage, greens,	11.0	8	14
Cabbage, hearted	11.5	8	15
Cauliflower or broccoli	15.7	10	20
Brussels sprouts	17.8	15	20
Carrots	12.2	10	15
Onions	13.4	10	16
Mushrooms, per ¼ lb	13.6	10	16
Fresh fruit			
Apples, cooking	13.2	10	16
Apples, dessert	15.0	10	20
Pears, dessert	15.6	12	20
Oranges	14.9	12	20
Bananas	16.8	14	20
Bread			
White, 1½ lb wrapped and sliced loaf	18.4	16	19½
White, 1½ lb unwrapped loaf	19.4	18	22
White, 14 oz loaf	13.3	12	14½
Brown, 14 oz loaf	14.1	13½	15
Flour			
Self-raising, per 3 lb	20.9	18	25
Bacon			
Collar*	65.6	56	74
Gammon*	88.6	76	100
Middle cut, smoked*	80.5	70	93
Back, smoked	89.1	70	104
Back, unsmoked	86.7	66	100
Streaky, smoked	69.9	60	86
Ham (not shoulder)	116.4	96	140
Pork luncheon meat, 12 oz can	30.5	24	36
Canned (red) salmon, ½-size can	77.5	69	89
Milk, ordinary, per pint	9.5	—	—
Butter			
New Zealand	45.5	42	51
Danish	48.5	43	52
Home produced	47.4	42	52
Margarine			
Standard quality (without added butter)	23.8	22	26
Lower priced	22.2	21	24
Lard	19.8	17	24
Cheese, cheddar type	50.7	44	58
Eggs, per doz.			
Large	49.9	46	54
Standard	45.9	41	49
Medium	40.2	37	43
Sugar, granulated, 2 lb	22.7	21	25
Instant coffee, per 4 oz	58.0	53	65
Tea per ¼ lb			
Higher priced	14.0	13	15
Medium priced	11.9	10	13½
Lower priced	10.8	9½	12

* Or Scottish equivalent
† Insufficient or not quotations
(a) Imported, chilled beef discontinued from January 1976
Source: Department of Employment

Home exhibitions

Stage 1 of conference supercentre completed

Harrogate report completion of the first stage of the new conference supercentre. The £215,000 contract for installation of the complex heating system is said to have been 'comfortably completed within the six months target' by John Laing Construction Ltd.

The system provides one of the most up-to-date municipal district heating installations in the north. Harrogate's Royal Hall, Council Offices, exhibition halls and Royal Baths assembly rooms, already benefit. The mains will be extended as the new conference centre is completed.

Nerve centre of the system is a medium temperature hot water boiler plant comprising three boilers utilising natural gas. If necessary, these could be run on light oil as a fuel supply. The heat is distributed by way of insulated underground mains. The boiler plant is housed in the basement of the Royal Baths assembly rooms and by utilising original structures and re-lining existing flues the project has been completed without environmental damage.

The eventual total connected energy load will be over 7.6mW.

The design team responsible is Morgan Bentley and Partners, architects; Ford Higgins and Pole, mechanical and electrical engineers; Wilfred Sykes and Needham, quantity surveyor; Robert T. Horne and Associates, structural engineers.

2,000 seat auditorium

Due for completion early 1979, the supercentre will provide a 2,000-seat auditorium with an additional 1,858m² exhibition/banqueting hall (approximately 20,000 sq ft) capable of seating 1,000 people, an office block with 1,858m² of accommodation, a major store, a number of individual shops, the foundations for a proposed luxury hotel and below ground car parking for 45 vehicles. The new conference auditorium will be directly linked with the existing exhibition halls, thus providing Harrogate with nearly 12,000m² of exhibition space in addition to the existing conference facilities.

The main feature of the complex, the central conference auditorium, will be a six-sided structure providing at different levels: foyers, bars, VIP and press boxes, television and film projection rooms, etc. Simultaneous multi-lingual translation facilities will be available in the main air conditioned auditorium – aimed at attracting new European conferences in addition to the substantial conference market already established in Harrogate.

The exhibition/banqueting hall and main auditorium will have suspended ceilings and the conference hall foyer will have a suspended glass assembly.

When completed the centre will be extensively furnished and provided with such facilities as lifts, catering and bar points, air conditioning, etc. The site will be landscaped with lawns, trees and shrubs to blend into the surrounding area and link bridges and escalators will provide access to the adjacent existing exhibition centre.

Conference and exhibition delegates annual spending in Harrogate has recently been estimated at £5 million a year. It is expected that with the provision of the new facilities the figure will rise to more than £10 million a year by 1979.

Model of the conference complex being built at Harrogate.

Latest developments on show at next year's foundry exhibition

Next year's Foundry '77, said to be the largest exhibition of foundry equipment, machinery and supplies ever held in the United Kingdom, will for the first time include plant and equipment used in all castings production processes. This should make it of direct interest both to producers of castings by traditional sand-moulding techniques and those making castings from permanent metal moulds or dies. Foundry '77, organised by Industrial Newspapers Ltd, Redhill, will be held at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, from 28 April to 6 May 1977.

The exhibition will be staged in Halls 1 and 2 of the NEC, providing 14,000m² of actual stand space for suppliers of materials, equipment and machinery. All but 3,000m² of stand space have already been booked by more than 132 exhibitors, including 29 stands reserved by companies outside the UK, or their representatives in Britain. Many of the stands booked by firms in the UK will in fact be showing machinery and equipment manufactured in other European countries, the USA and elsewhere. To date, the actual countries represented by the exhibits will include France, Germany, Italy, the USA, Denmark, East Germany, Poland, and other East European countries, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Japan and Sweden. It is expected that the total number of exhibitors will exceed 200 when the remaining exhibition space has been sold.

Many equipment manufacturers are being attracted to the exhibition by the imminent modernisation plans of the British foundry industry. Already, ferrous foundries are benefiting from the government's £40 million ferrous foundries aid scheme which enables manufacturers of ferrous castings to obtain financial grants towards approved capital investment projects aimed at modernising and improving production processes. A similar scheme of financial support has been announced in principle for the non-ferrous sector of the foundry industry.

The decision to open Foundry '77 to both sectors of the industry has prompted the Diecasting Society to hold its first national conference at the Hotel Metropole, which is part of the NEC complex, on 2 and 3 May.

Foundry '77 is sponsored by the Foundry Equipment and Supplies Association, and The Diecasting Society.

Textiles have price and range appeal for overseas buyers

British textiles on show this week at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, won immediate overseas acclaim. Sales to Holland and Denmark were among the first recorded at Dactex, the International Domestic and Contract Textiles Exhibition.

Price advantage was a key attraction. Exhibition representatives said that the overall range and quality of exhibits also impressed overseas buyers as did the facilities of the NEC. The industry was showing at Birmingham for the first time. More than 200 companies took part, occupying twice as much space as last year. The show was ranked the biggest-ever household textiles event in Britain and the second largest for Europe. Some 30 overseas companies were also represented.

Dactex organisers estimated that about 3,000 buyers were at the opening day, Sunday, 31 October. From abroad, most European countries were represented. There were early visits too from the United States, Canada, Iceland, Singapore, and Israel.

A Dutch order for 15,000 pillows from British Vita Co Ltd, Manchester was announced within minutes of the opening. Packaging was said to be a particular selling feature. Crabtree Fothergat Ltd, also of Manchester, had early reports worth more than £10,000 and spoke of trade generally well up on the same period last year. Within 12 hours of exhibiting, A and B (Ashbarry) Ltd, of London had more than £20,000 of overseas sales. The main features were a sale of continental quilts, worth £14,000, for Denmark and £400 worth of bedding, bathroom and cushion textiles for Iceland. Holland, Switzerland, Norway and Israel were also on the order books. Fogarty furnishings Ltd, of Boston, Lincs, said overseas buyers realised that the price of British goods was as favourable now as ever, even with extended deliveries into the new year. Iceland and Singapore were among their customers. Another early export success was of 40,000 blankets for Finland from the Yorkshire firm of Ratcliffe Bros Ltd, and for Scotland, substantial sales of table cloths, bedspreads and blankets for Singapore and a selection of European countries from Moonweave Ltd, Ayrshire.

The new ranges, new products and extensions to existing lines provided colourful displays. Products, many in co-ordinated designs and colours, included complete ranges of soft furnishings – upholstery and curtaining fabrics, tablecloths and napkins, duvets, blankets, sheets, quilts and other bedcoverings, towels and bathroom sets, stretch covers, cushions, trimmings and ancillary products such as curtain rails, tapes and blinds.

On Monday, Princess Margaret met exhibitors and toured the display.

The exhibition ended on 4 November.

Record carcase entries for Royal Smithfield show

Entries of livestock and carcases for Royal Smithfield Show at Earls Court, London, from 6 to 10 December, total 1,632 – compared with 1,702 last year.

The total carcase entry of 449 is a record – as is the entry of 113 beef carcases.

In the live cattle section the pure-breds have made a come-back with a sharp rise in entries from 294 in 1975 to 318 this year. The Devon entry of 47 is the highest of any individual cattle breed for seven years.

Mountain breeds again dominate the live sheep classes with 98 entries out of the total of 249 – compared with 58 short-woolled and 13 long-woolled entries. Best of all breeds is the Black Welsh Mountain with 13 pens entered.

The details of the stock entries were given on Monday 1 November by Peter Colebrook, chairman of the Royal Smithfield Club.

It was announced also on Monday that for the second year in succession there will be a Royal visit and Mr A. V. Dodge, chairman of the Smithfield Show joint committee, said that Princess Anne will be at the show on Tuesday, 7 December.

Mr Dodge said that the show had become an international event and a major market place for British agriculture.

The importance of the show as the shop window for the UK agricultural engineering industry was widely recognised, and the time had now come, he believed, to give Royal Smithfield credit for the part which it played in promoting the export of British stock and farm products in general. The British Agricultural Export Council certainly regards the show as a vital part of its promotion campaign, he said.

This year the show has a new classification scheme for the carcase cattle section – to give more uniform classes the cattle will be divided on a weight basis for live judging on the Sunday afternoon before the show opens on the Monday morning.

The classes are: (1) Heifer, weighing 6¾ cwt (756 lb.) to 8¼ cwt (925 lb) live weight, not exceeding 21 months old (minimum carcase weight 390 lb); (2) Heifer, weighing over 8¼ cwt (925 lb) live weight, not exceeding 21 months old; (3) Steer, weighing 7¼ cwt (840 lb) to 9 cwt (1,008 lb) live weight; not exceeding 21 months old (minimum carcase weight 450 lb); (4) Steer, weighing over 9 cwt (1,008 lb) to 10¼ cwt (1,148 lb) live weight, not exceeding 21 months old; (5) Steer, weighing over 10¼ cwt (1,148 lb) live weight, not exceeding 24 months old.

A new feature will be the presentation of The Shepherd of The Year Award, on Monday 6 December, organised by Livestock Farming and Pfizer Ltd, this is a national award.

As always the Young Farmers will be competing in the National Stock Judging Competitions organised by the National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs and in the finals of the Stockman of the Year Competition organised by the NFYFC and sponsored by the Midland Bank – the latter event moving to the Tuesday and Wednesday of Smithfield week.

The Ministry of Agriculture, the Milk Marketing Board, the Meat and Livestock Commission and the *Meat Trades Journal* are again combining to stage a cattle demonstration with the central theme – Meat from the Hills.

Separate demonstrations on sheep, pigs, and carcase cutting are being staged by the Meat and Livestock Commission, the Agricultural Development and Advisory Service and the College for the Distributive Trades respectively.

'Breeds of Britain' is to be the theme of the special Children's Cattle Demonstration which is being organised by The Royal Smithfield Club on Friday 10 December at 14.00 hours. Tom Tweddle, Ministry of Agriculture livestock husbandry officer, will give the commentary and the children will be invited to take part in an agricultural quiz – with prizes for the winners.

Sea defences, site works at Birmingham exhibition

New advances in flowline and vertical casting production systems for concrete components will be featured on the Stelmo stand at the 1976 Public Works Exhibition, 15 to 20 November, at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.

Stelmo Ltd of Ashford, have recently been involved in the design, construction and commissioning of a unique mechanised system for producing 70,000 concrete dolos sea defence units. Details will be available at the exhibition.

Aveling-Barford Ltd, in company with Goodwin Barsby Ltd and Coventry Climax Ltd will feature a three-machine range of centre-pivot articulated tractor shovels designed to operate within the 2 to 4m³ bucket capacity bracket. Among their other products on display will be the new TG2A all-wheel steer and the super 700 all-wheel drive, all-wheel steer six-wheeled motor graders, new rollers, one with hydrostatic transmission.

New products

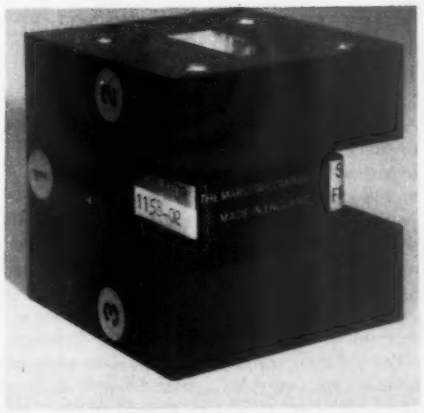
New components for Marconi products range

A Joystick Controller, providing reliable, sensitive mechanical control for electronic equipment, and a High Power X-Band Junction Circulator for use in many types of radar applications are announced by Marconi Communication Systems Ltd's Specialised Components Division.

The Joystick Controller type F3049 has been developed in two versions – the 01 and 02 – both said to be ideal for use as man-machine interfaces in the operation of radar and graphical displays and industrial machines etc. The design is completely solid state with no potentiometers, gears or sliding contacts.

The Circulator type F1158-02 is described as ideal for use in many types of radar applications, at both high peak and mean power levels, without the need for water cooling. It can also be operated as an isolator by the addition of a suitable load on one port, the power rating being dependent on the expected reflected power.

The F1158-02 is a compact (51 × 51 × 51mm) high power air-cooled junction circulator in R100 waveguide, designed to operate over the frequency band 8.5 to 9.6GHz at a normal working power rating of 60kW peak, 500W mean. Isolation is 20bB minimum and isolation loss 0.3dB maximum over the temperature range 0°C to +85°C.



Marconi High Power X-Band Junction Circulator.

Breakthrough in British hydraulic crane technology

A multi-purpose crawler crane announced by Thomas Smith and Sons (Rodley) Ltd, Leeds, uses hydraulic transmission to power all motions.

Tremendous export potential is claimed for the new Eurocrane 35c. Rated at 35 tonnes, it is said to have better manoeuvrability, greater precision, smoother operation and simpler maintenance than any mechanically-powered machine of similar capacity.

The makers say it represents one of the biggest single advances in British crawler crane technology. The machine uses hydrostatic transmission principles – previously limited to larger foreign cranes – and has been designed for total compatibility with all UK and export regulations.

Changeover from crane duty to dragline operation requires no manual modification to the transmission system – a simple safety-locked cabin selector switch automatically compensating the pneumatic control circuitry to the new function. Primary power is derived from the main diesel engine which drives a series of closed-loop hydraulic pumps – one for each motion. The machine can therefore hoist the maximum load with the engine idling. The provision of contra track rotation is standard.

Particular design emphasis has been placed on maintenance. The flexibility and versatility of hydraulic transmission obviates the need for heavy gear trains and vulnerable driving chains. No special tools are required for maintenance. There is direct access to major components. Unit assembly permits modular interchange and exchange of major units. Cab facilities include adjustable seat, toughened glass, heater, windscreen wiper and noise insulation. Radio, cigar lighter, tinted glass and sun visor are optional.

Eurocrane 35c with hydraulic power transmission to all motions. Cigar lighter, radio are optional.

Weld fume extraction unit

A fume extractor produced by Secomak Air Products, London, has been designed specifically for use when welding in limited areas. A typical application, according to the makers, would be the base girder design of a gantry crane.

The unit – model 592 – is described as lightweight, portable and exceptionally powerful and draws off noxious gases through flexible tubing. It can be positioned easily and the flexible hosing inserted near the welder to clean the air.

Unimate robot speeds machine loading

Bar Productions (Bromsgrove) Ltd, pioneers in the use of automated machine tool loading techniques, have ordered a Unimate 2000B 5-axis industrial robot to load and unload a Wickman (5¾ in) 140mm multi-spindle automatic chucking lathe producing turned parts for the automative and agricultural industries. It will be the first British use of a Unimate in lathe loading, according to Unimation, of Telford, Salop.

The Wickman automatic has five working, and one loading spindles. It is required to unload a finished machined component, and load a fresh blank within a cycle time of 12 seconds. The Unimate will be fitted with a double gripper which will minimise this unload/reload cycle. Because rapid changeover is required, the Unimate will be equipped with a memory of 8 × 32 programmes, which will facilitate programme changes 'at the flick of a switch'.

Technology news

Engineering – greater harmonisation at home and overseas

An inquiry into the steps necessary to co-ordinate user specification in the engineering industries with a view to promoting exports or reducing costs has been announced by the National Economic Development Office. It will be carried out by Sir Frederick Warner, assisted on international aspects by Sir Con O'Neill, and supported by Nedo.

The inquiry was suggested after an August meeting of the National Economic Development Council which discussed expressions of concern by many Industrial Strategy Sector Working Parties about specifications and standards problems, particularly in the engineering industries. The working parties emphasised the scope for greater harmonisation of home and overseas customer requirements both in the public and private sector; progress in this field would be of great value in improving export performance.

Initially, Sir Frederick Warner's inquiry will follow up the issues raised by the sector working parties. The British Standards Institution is already contributing, and the CBI, TUC, government departments, the professional engineering institutions and others concerned are being invited to do so. The study is taking into account the work done by Sir Raymond Brown and Nedo on the scope for aligning the specifications for specialised plant and equipment bought by nationalised industries with overseas requirements.

It is intended that the study will be completed by mid-December. The report will, therefore, be available for consideration by the council at the same time as the progress reports from sector working parties at the beginning of 1977.

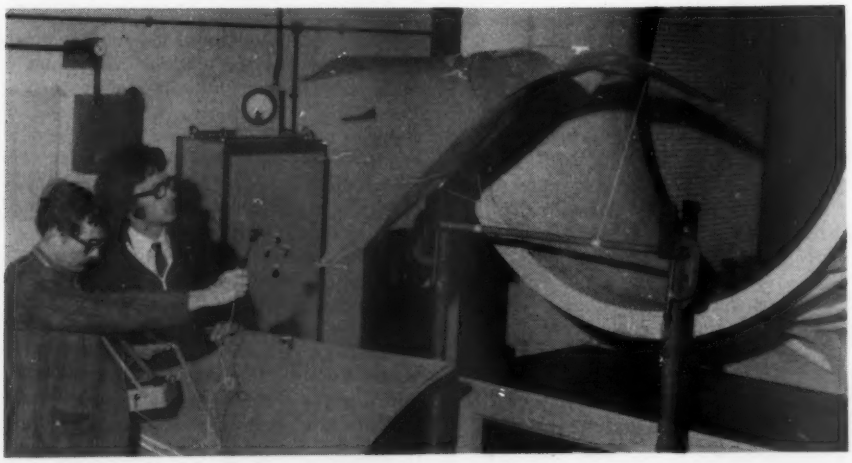
The terms of reference are:

To examine the points made by sector working parties in the field of engineering specifications and standards, and with a view to improving the competitiveness of British firms, and with due consideration for the completion of metrication, to report to the National Economic Development Council at the end of the year on:

1 The areas in engineering industry, in both the public and private sectors, in which greater harmonisation of home and overseas purchasers' specifications could be expected to improve significantly the competitiveness of British suppliers, and the degree of improvement that might be secured in each area.
2 Action required to ensure the quicker and most advantageous selection, or development, and use of, standards and quality assurance schemes for engineering products, taking account of recent legislation.
3 The role and authority which might be given to professional institutions in relation to standards and quality assurance, with due regard for current practice in competitor countries.

Kite control

Researchers at the mechanical engineering department of Newcastle university helping in the design of a new kite. Co-operation with a private firm has led to the design of a kite with a curved 5mm thick glass fibre frame and a polythene sail giving stability in winds ranging from 3 to 30 mph. After heavy impact with the ground, flight control can be recovered simply by pulling on the kites two control cords. The university team feel that the design could be further developed, for instance, with a large enough sail, the kite could pull a small boat. It might also be used for lifting parachutes or for aerial photography.



UK economic minerals: potash report

Potash is the subject of the 16th in the series of reports on economic minerals of the United Kingdom compiled by the Mineral Resources Division of the Institute of Geological Sciences, published by the Department of Industry last month.

Potash occurs in nature either in solid form, chiefly as the potassium chloride mineral sylvine, or as brine. Potassium salts are used chiefly in manufacture of compound fertilisers or for direct application to the soil and, to a much lesser extent, in manufacture of glass and such chemicals as caustic potash and potassium permanganate.

The United Kingdom has been a major importer of potassium salts for many years. The chief sources of supply are East and West Germany. Imports of potassium minerals, manufactured fertilisers and industrial compounds totalled about 911,000 tonnes in 1974, valued at more than £32 million.

A mine has been developed at Boulby in Cleveland by Cleveland Potash Ltd which started production in 1974. It is nominally capable of meeting United Kingdom demand for potash in the near future. Almost 60,000 tonnes of marketable potassium chloride had been produced by the end of 1975. Exports of potassium compounds are relatively insignificant. They are chiefly in the form of potassium iodide and potassium cyanide.

The report describes geological occurrences of potassium-bearing minerals in the United Kingdom. Information is provided on resources, uses, specifications and marketing, price, mining production, overseas trade and consumption, with an indication of future demand for potash. An outline of the structure of the potash-using industry is also given, and a graph illustrating the general increase in imports of potassium salts for fertiliser use during the period 1950 to 1974 is also included.

The report has been compiled by the mineral resources division of the Institute of Geological Sciences from information assembled by the inter-departmental mineral resources consultative committee and with the assistance of industry. Potash: Mineral Resources Consultative Committee, is available from HMSO price 90p.

Saving water in production processes

Experts from Reiss Engineering Co Ltd of Stanmore, Middlesex, claim that savings of up to 85 per cent can be achieved by careful design of shower systems for the cleaning of wires, moulds, felts, etc. in the manufacture of paper and board.

Where synthetic felts and plastic wires are in use, chances are that low volume VHP showers with minimal throughputs are already in use. Low to medium pressure shower systems in use on the wire return, cylinder moulds and concentrator drums may be neglected.

Reiss Engineering claim that freshwater savings of 65 per cent can be achieved by replacing stationary drilling pipes by the company's efficiency pipes – and savings of up to 85 per cent can result from the use of an oscillating pipe.

SRC support for marine technology

The report of a Science Research Council Marine Technology Task Force chaired by Dr J. Birks of BP Trading Ltd says that there is an urgent need for universities, polytechnics and Scottish central institutions to develop a major programme of research and post graduate training in marine technology. The report emphasises that the promotion of a close working relationship with industry should be a prime objective. It recommends that the SRC provide immediate support for a co-ordinated programme of research into technology related to the extraction of offshore oil and gas. This programme should be implemented through a limited number of major centres in association with consortia of collaborating institutions concentrating work initially in priority areas identified by the task force.

The council has welcomed the task force recommendations and agreed that it should support a programme along the lines proposed in the report. Specific proposals and firmer estimates of cost are now needed before a full programme can be developed but the engineering board has already agreed to provide immediate support for the best programme that can be achieved from its present resources. Initial research grants totalling £645,980 over a two-year period have now been made to five universities with the aim of building up centres of expertise and postgraduate training to complement industrial and goverment R and D programmes in the field. Research on structures and materials will be carried out in London (Imperial College and University College) and Glasgow Universities, on underwater maintenance and repair at Strathclyde University and on remote control of unmanned submersibles instrumentation, underwater cutting, seawater injection techniques and marine risers at Heriot Watt University.

Setting up an experiment in the interaction of molten metal and water at the reactor safety test compound of the Atomic Energy Establishment at Winfrith. The programme covers topics which are common to several types of reactor and is designed to obtain greater knowledge of the ways in which faults develop and what could result if they remain uncontrolled. Although preparations can take several months, experiments last for only a few milliseconds.

Nondestructive testing for Big Ben

Harwell specialists have been called in to use nuclear techniques, to save Britain's most famous old clock – Big Ben.

The clock is in need of an extensive overhaul following this August's much-publicised breakdown. At that time the clock was put out of action for a day when a piece of the 122-year-old machinery came loose and crashed down on to the mechanism. As a result, the quarter hour bells are still silent although the bell (Big Ben) still strikes the hour.

Harwell is carrying out a diagnostic operation, using the latest nondestructive testing techniques – a spin-off from Britain's nuclear programme. The object is to establish the full extent of the damage caused by the failure which put the quarter chime out of action.

The Harwell team is carrying out a range of measurements, including radiographic tests, using radio-active sources. They will also use ultrasonics – very high frequency sound and magnetic equipment with which fine cracks can be detected.

Most of this work has been done while the clock is working normally.

The Harwell work is being directed by Ron Parish, helped by Peter Kear, Les Simmonds and Don Armstrong. All of them work in the Harwell Nondestructive Testing Centre, the national centre for the development and application of advanced nondestructive testing techniques.

Their normal work ranges from X-raying running jet engines to developing techniques to inspect anything from large heat exchangers to miniature electronic components.

The centre specialises in research and consultancy contracts for British industry.

Next year's overhaul of Big Ben will be carried out by Thwaites and Reed Ltd, of Hastings, Sussex.

Scientists from Harwell's nondestructive testing centre examining Big Ben.

Parliament

Monday, 25 October

Departmental advertising

Eric Moonman (Basildon) asked for the percentages and totals of advertising budgets of the Department of Industry and the Department of Trade allocated to weekly periodicals and the Labour Weekly, *in particular, at 31 December 1975 and to 30 June 1976.*

Mr Huckfield said: 'Department of Industry advertising expenditure allocated to weekly periodicals from 1 January 1975 to 31 December 1975 was £13,594 which represents 3 per cent of the total advertising budget.

'During the period 1 January 1976 to 30 June 1976 expenditure allocated to weekly periodicals was £9,169 which represents 5 per cent of the total advertising budget.

'The department did not advertise in *Labour Weekly* during either of the above periods.'

Mr. Clinton Davis said: 'Department of Trade advertising expenditure allocated to weekly periodicals from 1 January 1975 to 31 December 1975 was £3,309 – 31 per cent of the total advertising budget.

'Between 1 January 1976-30 June 1976, expenditure allocated to weekly periodicals was £2,290 – 14 per cent of the total advertising budget.

'The department did not advertise in *Labour Weekly* during either of the above periods.'

Titanium

Mr J. W. Rooker (Birmingham, Perry Barr) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if the trade in titanium between the United Kingdom and Japan was raised in his recent discussion with the Japanese; and, if so, what was the outcome.

'I understand that the matter was raised by the CBI in their recent discussions with their Japanese opposite numbers, the Keidanren,' said Mr Dell. 'The Keidanren representatives agreed to study what Japan could do about this and other difficulties faced by United Kingdom exporters to Japan and to report back to the CBI.'

Mr Rooker also asked for a statement on progress made towards the objective of equalising tariff rates on titanium within the Gatt negotiations.

Mr Clinton Davis answered: 'The European Economic Community has proposed a formula for reducing tariffs which would effect a substantial degree of harmonisation. Discussions on this and other proposals are at present taking place.'

Imports from UK

Philip Holland (Carlton) asked whether any restriction or ban on the import of United Kingdom manufacturers is applied by Japan, Taiwan or Indonesia.

'Neither Japan, Taiwan nor Indonesia apply discriminatory restrictions on imports of manufactures specifically from the United Kingdom,' said Mr Clinton Davis. 'They do each apply some controls affecting manufactured imports from all countries, as listed below:

Japan

Japan controls the import of:
Leather and leather footwear
Aircraft and parts (excluding light aircraft)
Tobacco

Taiwan

Import licences are required for all imports. There is a total ban on:
Medium and high density polyethylene
Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)
Passenger motor cars
Loudspeakers
Cathode ray tubes for television receivers
Cast iron

Indonesia

There is a ban on the import of a wide range of manufactured goods, and restrictions on the imports of others. I am writing to the hon member with a list of the goods currently affected.'

Imports from the Far East

Mr Holland asked which far eastern non-Commonwealth countries export manufactured goods to the United Kingdom for sale at a discount on their home market basic prices.

Mr Clinton Davis said: 'No records are maintained of the discounts offered on manufactured goods to the United Kingdom from far eastern non-Commonwealth countries; indeed it would hardly be practicable to do so. If however an application were to be made for anti-dumping action against particular exports any discounts allowed would be taken into account when establishing equivalent sales to the home and exports market in order to decide whether dumping was taking place.'

Construction Exports Advisory Board

Michael Latham (Melton) asked for any additions to, or changes in, published material of information relating to construction export opportunities as a result of recommendations made by the Construction Exports Advisory Board since December 1975.

Mr Clinton Davis replied: 'My department have discussed with the Construction Exports Advisory Board and its constituent associations the provision of information on construction export opportunities and in the light of their advice are sending a special circular to diplomatic service posts overseas about the export interests and commercial intelligence requirements of the construction and allied industries and emphasising the importance to them of the earliest practicable intelligence on potential export opportunities.'

Export promotion

Michael Morris (Northampton South) wanted to know the total government expenditure, including staff costs, in support of the marketing operation of exporters during the years 1973-74, 1974-75 and 1975-76; and what is anticipated for 1976-77.

Mr Clinton Davis told him that total government expenditure, including staff costs, in support of the marketing operations of exporters was assessed at £32.9 million (net) in 1973-74, £38.8 million in 1974-75 and £48.1 million in 1975-76; the estimate for 1976-77 is £57.8 million.

Insolvencies

Ian Wrigglesworth (Teesside, Thornaby) asked for a statement on proposals for a wider ranging review of insolvency law in England and Wales.

Mr Dell's reply was published in *Trade and Industry* of 29 October, page 271.

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Alan Williams
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Robert Cryer
Leslie Huckfield

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Edmund Dell
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Michael Meacher
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection: Roy Hattersley
Minister of State: John Fraser
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

Robert McCrindle (Brentwood and Ongar) asked in how many cases in 1976 the introduction of new solvency requirements for insurance companies led to technical insolvency; how many dispensations were granted; and if the requirement would be modified in the light of experience.

Mr Clinton Davis answered: 'All insurance companies authorised since 1 February 1976 to carry on non-life insurance business of any class have been required to meet higher minimum solvency requirements in conformity with our EEC obligations. This has led to no technical insolvencies or dispensations.

'The Insurance Companies (Valuation of Assets) Regulations 1976 (SI 1976/87), which came into force on 1 May 1976, set out rules for the valuation and admissibility of insurance companies' assets for various purposes, including assessment of solvency under the Insurance Companies Act 1974. The majority of companies have not yet had to deposit with the department audited balance sheets taking account of regulations.

'As was fully expected, a number of companies will need additional time to rearrange their investments in the light of these new requirements. Up to 22 October 17 dispensations have been granted to 14 companies under section 57 of the Act to allow for this.

'I have no plans to make significant modifications to the 1976 regulations but I am considering with the industry certain difficulties of detail which have arisen in practice.'

Stansted Airport

Stanley Newens (Harlow) asked about representations to expand Stansted Airport.

Mr Clinton Davis answered: 'Representations in response to the department's consultative document 'Airport Strategy for Great Britain, Part 1: the London Area', have been received from a number of organisations concerned with the future of Stansted Airport. Some of these have favoured its expansion.'

Mr Clinton Davis also said that the future development of Stansted Airport would be considered in the light of the consultations taking place on airports policy.

Titanium sponge

'What country is the source of titanium sponge used in the manufacture of titanium for Concorde?' asked Mr Rooker (Perry Barr).

Mr Williams said that the United Kingdom was the major source.

Steel

Michael Marshall (Arundel) asked for an estimate of the ability of the United Kingdom steel industry and the BSC to satisfy the demand for cold reduced sheet steel during the forthcoming six months.

Mr Huckfield said: 'British Steel Corporation have recently been experiencing production difficulties including the temporary shutdown of the new Llanwern blastfurnace, which is now back in operation. The corporation have adequate productive capacity to satisfy prospective demand on them for cold reduced sheet during the next six months and expect to be able to meet such demands.'

Statistical surveys, etc.

Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked how many departmental surveys, involving questionnaires sent to businesses, industry or members of the public, the Departments of Industry and Trade currently have in hand; how many civil servants are involved and what is their estimated total cost.

Mr Huckfield answered: 'The Departments of Industry and Trade have in hand 31 statistical inquiries, which are listed in the following table. At 1 July 1976, there were 1,200 civil servants involved in collecting and processing the statistics. Their estimated annual total cost, including the cost of support services borne on the votes of other departments, is £7.7 million.

STATISTICAL INQUIRIES BY THE DEPARTMENTS OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE

Subject	Frequency
Industries' sales	Quarterly
Census of production	Annual
Mines and quarries	Annual
Wholesaling and dealing	Annual
Motor trades	Annual
Retail distribution	Annual
Property owning	Annual
Catering	Annual
Transport and entertainment	Annual
Film exhibition	Annual
Building materials	Quarterly and monthly
Miscellaneous production and order statistics	Various
Purchases of fuel by large users	Quarterly
Fuel stocks/consumption of large users	Monthly or quarterly
Expenditure on research and development	Every two or three years
Capital expenditure	Quarterly
Investment intentions	Four-monthly
Stocks	Monthly or quarterly
Export prospects	Quarterly
Wholesale prices	Monthly or quarterly
Overseas transactions	Quarterly and annually
Company liquidity	Quarterly
Share register survey	One-off
Insurance companies and private pensions funds	Annual and quarterly
Retail sales, stocks, HP, TV rental and relay	Monthly
Finance houses and check trading	Monthly and quarterly
Catering	Monthly
UK coasting inquiry	Monthly
UK passenger movements inquiry Register proving forms	When ship docks

John Hunt (Bromley, Ravensbourne) said that individual shareholders in public companies are being circulated by the Department of Industry with requests to disclose whether they are beneficial holders or trustees for others, and asked for the reason for requiring 'the disclosure of such private and personal information.'

Mr Huckfield answered, 'The inquiry is part of a survey which my department is conducting to provide an up-to-date estimate of the distribution of listed share ownership between broad categories of holder, such as insurance companies, pension, funds, investment trusts, individuals and so on. Some shareholdings may be registered by individual on behalf of other categories of holder. The inquiry has therefore been sent to a small sample of individual shareholders to help estimate the distribution of beneficial as opposed to registered share ownership.'

Business Statistics Office

Mr Adley asked: 'What is the staff complement, and current annual cost, of the Business Statistics Office?'

Mr Huckfield answered '1090 and £6.8 million, including the cost of support services borne on the votes of other departments.'

Economics and Statistics Division

Michael Brotherton (Louth) asked for the number of people employed in Economics and Statistics Division 6A(1) of the Department of Industry.

Mr Huckfield said, 'The following staff are employed in this section:

Statistician	3
Senior Assistant Statistician	1
Higher Executive Officer	3
Executive Officer	12
Clerical Officer	23
Clerical Assistant	2
Total	44

Note: Part-time staff are counted as half.

'The main activity of the section is the summarisation of the published annual accounts of a sample of large companies, the results of which are published annually in Business Monitor M3. It is also responsible for compiling and publishing quarterly statistics of company liquidity, investments by insurance companies and private pension funds, acquisitions and mergers, and insolvencies. At present it is also undertaking a survey of the ownership of listed company shares at the end of 1975. The section is also responsible for analysis and briefing on matters relating to these and other aspects of financial statistics.'

Electric vehicles

Michael Shersby (Hillingdon, Uxbridge) asked what government-sponsored research is currently taking place into the development of electrically propelled motor vehicles.

Mr. Williams said, 'The wider use of electric vehicles will largely depend on the availability of a battery of superior performance to existing lead-acid batteries. The government is accordingly concentrating its development effort into participation in a consortium set up to develop the sodium-sulphur battery; the estimated government contribution over the last two years is £1 million. Owing to the many formidable problems, both technical and operational, it is not expected that vehicles employing this battery will be in service for some years.'

Price of beer

Bryan Gould (Southampton, Test) asked by what percentage the retail price of beer has increased since 1966 and 1971, respectively; and how these increases compare with (a) the increase in the RPI and (b) the increase in the price of milk over the same period.

Mr Maclennan gave the information as follows:

	% increase in price	
	1966 (average) to Sept 1976	1971 (average) to Sept 1976
Beer	145	88
Retail Price Index (all items)	166	102
Milk	167	85

Source: General Index of Retail Prices.

Advertising by accountants and stockbrokers

Mr McCrindle asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection accepts the recommendations of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on advertising by stockbrokers and accountants; and if he plans to introduce legislation.

Mr Fraser replied. 'As I announced on 6

August when these reports were published, the government takes the view, in the light of the commission's reports, that accountants and stockbrokers should be given greater freedom to advertise than is at present allowed under their existing codes of conduct. The Director General of Fair Trading is in touch with the Stock Exchange and the appropriate professional bodies about the proposed new rules and safeguards on advertising and allied matters. Powers exist to give effect by order to recommendations of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission but it is too early to say whether subsidiary legislation of this nature will be introduced.'

Tuesday, 26 October

Trade with EEC

Michael Morris (Northampton South) asked: 'What was the imbalance in trade in respect of United Kingdom exports to the EEC and UK imports from the EEC for the first nine months of 1976; and how do these figures compare with the same period during 1975?'

'The crude balance of trade (that is the difference between exports fob and imports cif) with the EEC in the first nine months of 1976 was £1,573 million compared with £1,815 million in the corresponding period of 1975,' said Mr Clinton Davis.

Tourism

Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked by how much, in real terms, the overseas spending budget of the British Tourist Authority has been reduced this year because of the devaluation of the £ sterling.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that the British Tourist Authority calculate that the impact could be of the order of £800,000 if the effect of devaluation were allowed to fall wholly on its overseas programmes and if industry were not prepared, in respect of the services offered by the authority which it particularly values, to help bridge the gap.

Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley) asked for a list of all the regional grants, incentives, premiums and similar schemes operated by the Department of Trade in the last five years, indicating the date of introduction and where necessary the date of termination of these schemes.

Mr. Clinton Davis said that the following regional arrangements have applied under the Development of Tourism Act 1969:

1 Assistance to tourism projects under Section 4 has been restricted to Development Areas;
2 Grants to assist hotel development under Part II were payable at special rates in Development Areas before 1 April 1973, after which no further applications were admissable.

'The Secretaries of State for Scotland and Wales are responsible for the administration of the act in Scotland and Wales respectively,' he said.

Mr Wainwright also asked: 'What is the total value, at August 1976 prices, of the assistance granted to each region of the United Kingdom, under these special regional schemes, in each of the last five years?

Mr Clinton Davis said, 'This information is not available in the form requested. The annual reports of the three national tourist boards, available in the library of the House, show country by country the total value at current prices of selective assistance given under section 4 of the Development of Tourism Act 1969 as well as grants paid under Part II.

'It should be noted that the regional tabulation of Part II payments in the report for England is by reference to areas covered by regional tourist boards, which do not coincide with specified development areas.'

British Overseas Trade Board

Michael Morris (Northampton South) asked what projects the British Overseas Trade Board are currently pursuing aimed at bringing management and the shop floor into closer association in overseas trade.

Mr. Dell said, 'The British Overseas Trade Board includes two leading trade unionists and the British Overseas Trade Advisory Council has five trade union members. The board constantly seeks to bring management and the shop floor into closer association in the pursuit of overseas trade, and in particular by inviting firms to include shop floor representatives in the teams firms send to the BOTB Export Dynamics Conferences, by acting as a co-sponsor of Export Year with the TUC and other bodies, and by offering an incentive to firms taking part in outward missions to include a shop floor representative.'

Mr Morris asked for a list of the members of the BOTB and the principal organisations and companies they represent.

Mr Clinton Davis listed the membership as follows:

Sir Frederick Catherwood (chairman)
Chairman, William Mallinson and Denny Mott Ltd.,
Director, John Laing and Son Ltd.,
Director, Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Co. (GB) Ltd.,
The Duke of Kent (Vice-chairman)
Deputy chairman,
National Electronics Council.
Stephen Baker
Co-ordinator/industrial advisers,
Department of Trade
Lord Briginshaw
Member, British National Oil Corporation,
Former member of General Council TUC.
Mr J. W. Buckley
Chairman, Davy International Ltd.,
Chairman, Alfred Herbert Ltd.
Mr R. H. W. Bullock
Deputy Secretary, Department of Industry
Mr. M. D. Butler
Deputy Under-Secretary, Foreign and Commonwealth Office.
Sir Derek Ezra
Chairman, The National Coal Board,
Chairman, British Institute of Management.
Mr R. W. Gray
Deputy secretary, Department of Trade.
Sir Denis Hamilton,
Chairman and editor-in-chief, Times Newspapers Ltd.,
Mr J. L. Jones,
General secretary, Transport and General Workers Union
Member, TUC General Council.
Sir Jan Lewando
Director, Bunzl Pulp and Paper Ltd.,
W. A. Baxter and Sons Ltd.,
Heal and Sons Holdings Ltd.
Lord Limerick
Director, Kleinwort Benson Ltd.,
President, Association of British Chambers of Commerce.
Sir Peter Matthews
Managing director, Vickers Ltd.,
Member, National Research Development Corporation.
Mr J. H. Neill,
Chairman and chief executive, James Neill Holdings Ltd.,
Mr P. S. Preston
Deputy secretary, Department of Trade
Sir John Read
Chairman, EMI Group of Companies
Sir Francis Sandilands
Chairman, Commercial Union Assurance Company Ltd.,
Chairman, Committee on Invisible Exports.
Mr B. F. W. Scott
Chairman, Lucas Industries Ltd.,
Lord Shackleton,
Deputy chairman, Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation Ltd.,
Mr K. Taylor,
Secretary, Export Credits Guarantee Department.
Mr. J. Whitehorn,
Deputy director general, Confederation of British Industry.
Mr S. D. Wilks,
Chief executive, British Overesas Trade Board.

Mr Clinton Davis also listed the following members of the British Overseas Trade Advisory Council.

CHAIRMAN	
Edmund Dell	President – BOTB
Secretary of State for Trade	
Sir Frederick Catherwood	Chairman – BOTB
The Duke of Kent	Vice chairman – BOTB
S. Baker	BOTB member
Industrial adviser	
R. C. Booth	Director: Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce
Lord Briginshaw	BOTB member
E. C. Brookes	Member Export
Singlehurst Hydraulics Ltd	Promotion Panel, CBI
E. A. Brown	Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers
H. J. C. Browne	Chairman: Hong Kong
John Swire and Sons Ltd	Trade Advisory Group
J. W. Buckley	BOTB member
Davy International Ltd	
R. H. W. Bullock	BOTB member
Deputy Secretary, Department of Industry	
G. V. K. Burton	Chairman: Overseas
Fisons Ltd	Committee, CBI
M. Butler	BOTB member
Foreign and Commonwealth Office	
Dr G. Chambers	Northern Ireland
Milk Marketing Board for Northern Ireland	Chamber of Commerce
S. F. Champion	Chairman: West India
Inchcape Overseas Ltd	Committee
W. M. Clarke	Director: Committee on Invisible Exports
Lord Clydesmuir	President and Chairman: Executive Scottish Council Development and Industry
J. N. Cooper	Vice president: London
Shell International Ltd	Chamber of Commerce
A. J. Day	Director-General: Institute of Export
T. R. Earnshaw	Manchester Chamber of
Export Year Adviser	Commerce
D. B. Ercolani	Member Export
Ercol Ltd	Promotion Panel, CBI
Sir Derek Ezra	BOTB member
National Coal Board	Chairman: European Trade Committee
J. P. Ford	British Shippers' Council
International Joint Venture Ltd	
R. W. Gray	BOTB member
Deputy secretary, Department of Trade	
Sir Denis Hamilton	BOTB member
Times Newspapers Ltd	
J. Harper	Union of Construction and Allied Trades Technicians
J. L. Jones	General secretary: Transport and General Workers' Union
Lord Kearton	Chairman: East European
British National Oil Corporation	Trade Council
Sir Jan Lewando	BOTB member
Lord Limerick	BOTB member
Association of British Chamber of Commerce	Chairman: Committee for Middle East Trade
W. E. Luke	Chairman: United
Lindustries Ltd	Kingdom-South Africa Trade Association
R. D. C. McAlpine	Chairman: Economic
Baring Brothers and Co Ltd	Affairs Committee of Canning House
Sir Ronald McIntosh	Director-general: National Economic Development Office
B. Mathers	Transport and General Workers' Union
Sir Peter Matthews	BOTB member
Vickers Ltd	
M. Neil	Director: Glasgow Chamber of Commerce
J. Hugh Neill	BOTB member
James Neill Holdings Ltd	
Lord Nelson of Stafford	President 'Executive
GEC Ltd	Council' Sino-British Trade Council

G. C. Nichols Rotaprint Ltd	Chairman: Japan Trade Advisory Group
Sir Michael Parsons Inchcape and Co Ltd	Chairman: General Committee and President: India, Pakistan and Bangladesh Association
Sir Richard Powell Hill Samuel Group Ltd	President: British Export Houses Association
P. S. Preston Deputy secretary, Department of Trade	BOTB member
Sir John Read	BOTB member
Lord Redmayne House of Frazer Ltd	Chairman: North American Advisory Group
D. H. Rooney Balfour Beatty Ltd	Chairman: South East Asia Trade Advisory Group
W. R. Russell	Chairman: Australia and New Zealand Trade Advisory Committee
Sir Francis Sandilands	BOTB member (Committee on Invisible Exports)
B. F. W. Scott Lucas Industries Ltd	BOTB member
Lord Shackleton Rio-Tinto Zinco Corporation Ltd	BOTB member
M. D. Sieff Marks and Spencer Ltd	Chairman: British Overseas Trade Group for Israel
J. Sieger J. and S. Sieger Ltd	Chairman: Wessex Export Club
C. F. Smale Tucker Products Ltd	President: Cardiff Chamber of Commerce and Industry
K. Taylor Export Credits Guarantee Department	BOTB member
A. E. Wernly British Insulated Callender's Cables	Member Export Promotion Panel, CBI
J. Whitehorn Confederation of British Industry	BOTB member
S. D. Wilks	Chief executive: BOTB
G. Wood Ove Arup Partnership	Chairman: Tropical Africa Advisory Group

Mr Morris asked when the 1976 annual report of the BOTB would be published; and the reason for the delay.

'There is no regular time for the publication of the report of the BOTB which this year will be issued before the end of November,' said Mr Dell.

EEC insurance

Tim Renton (Mid-Sussex) inquired after progress being made by the EEC commission in its examination of whether the community could provide insurance cover for projects designed to safeguard the EEC supply position for raw materials.

Mr Cryer answered: 'The commission of the European Economic Community is continuing with its examination of the scope for a community initiative for a scheme of overseas investment insurance for raw materials projects, and has been assisted in this respect through consultations with relevant experts from member states as well as submissions made by the Group of European Mining Companies.'

Export credit

Mr Morris asked for an estimate of the total annual cost of export credit.

'In its credit insurance trading operations, the ECGD continues to meet its financial objective to operate at no net cost to public funds,' said Mr Dell. 'The most recent estimates for the department's non-trading operations are set out in Programme Chapter 4 (Trade, Industry and Employment) in Cmnd 6393 "Public Expenditure to 1979-80".'

Survey of share ownership

Several questions were asked by Michael Brotherton (Louth) on the confidentiality, cost, etc. of the Department of Industry's survey into the ownership of shares.

Mr Huckfield said: 'Information supplied by members of the public in the course of this survey will be treated in strict confidence and will be destroyed as soon as the survey analyses have been completed. There are no plans to store the completed forms beyond that time. The cost of sending out the inquiry to personal shareholders (but not processing it) is about £3,000. Letters have been sent to 3,625 people, which is approximately three in every 10,000 personal shareholders. So far, 1,883 completed forms have been received, 52 per cent of the total sent out, and replies are still being received.

'The survey is entirely voluntary and there are no sanctions that can be taken against any member of the public who does not co-operate in the inquiry.

'Eleven staff are currently engaged in the survey of share registers as a whole and six on the inquiry to personal shareholders. The cost of analysing the data for the full survey is approximately £38,000; it is hoped to publish the results in the first half of 1977.'

Small firms

Mr Clemitson (Luton East) asked what was the total net annual output of small establishments as defined in the Bolton Report in the manufacturing sector in the latest available year.

Mr Cryer said that the net output of manufacturing establishments in the United Kingdom employing less than 200 persons in 1971 is estimated at £4,973 million.

(Source: *Annual Census of Production 1971*, Business Monitor PA 1002.)

Mr Clemitson asked the same question in respect of what was the manufacturing sector expressed as a percentage of the output of manufacturing industry as a whole.

Mr Cryer replied that the net output of manufacturing establishments in the UK employing less than 200 persons in 1971 is estimated to have been 25.0 per cent of the net output of all manufacturing industry.

(Source: *Annual Census of Production 1971*, Business Monitor PA 1002.)

Wednesday, 27 October

Worker participation

David Price (Eastleigh) asked what steps are being taken to increase staff participation within the publicly owned industries for which the Secretary of State for Industry has ultimate accountability.

Mr Huckfield answered: 'The government has set up a committee of inquiry under Lord Bullock to advise on questions relating to representation at board level in the private sector, and has also set in hand a study of the role of employees in relation to decision-making in the nationalised industries. Co-ordinated studies covering the public services (including both central and local government) and related bodies have also been initiated. The intention is that the various studies should be completed in time for the government to be able to take an overall view of the private and public sectors after the Bullock Committee reports.

'More particularly, the Post Office Board and the Council of Post Office Unions have, at my rt hon friend's request, entered into discussions about the possibility of an experiment in industrial democracy in the Post Office, and he has asked the two sides to let him have their proposals as soon as they can. The Industry Act 1975 requires the National Enterprise Board to promote industrial democracy in the undertakings which it controls: most encouraging progress, to which the government attaches high importance, has been made within British Leyland.

'The bill to take the aircraft and shipbuilding industries into public ownership imposes a duty on the new corporations to promote industrial democracy in a strong and organic form.

'However, these initiatives should not be interpreted as indicative of the government's definitive views on the question of industrial democracy in the nationalised industries as a whole – the government will not be in a position to reach a final view on this until it has received and considered the reports of the Bullock Committee and the public sector studies.'

Government assistance to industry

Mr Grylls asked several questions on the total amounts of assistance offered and monies paid under various schemes of government assistance to industry.

Mr Huckfield and Mr Williams gave the following answers:

Ferrous foundry industry scheme

£15,822,000 offered, £717,000 paid.

Machine tool industry scheme

Formal offers of assistance to date total £2,428,000, of which £42,200 has been paid.

Clothing industry scheme

Total amount of assistance offered to date is £445,000 of which £130,000 has already been paid to firms.

Wool textile industry scheme

Since the inception of the scheme, 189 offers of assistance have been made on investment of £72.3 million, of which £54.6 million is for new plant and machinery and £17.4 million for new and modernised buildings. The estimated grant involved is £13.9 million of which £7.4 million had been paid out by 26 October 1976. In addition grants of £1.7 million have been paid under the realisation part of the scheme as compensation for firms ceasing to trade or closing down production units.

Mr Grylls asked how much selective financial assistance under section 8 of the Industry Act 1972 has been offered to date.

'At 26 October 1976 the sums counted against the limits in section 8(7) of the Industry Act 1972 totalled £435 million,' said Mr Williams.

Mr Grylls also asked for the number of offers of assistance to date, and their total value, under the accelerated projects scheme.

Mr Williams said: 'At 26 October 1976 106 offers of assistance totalling £80 million had been made.'

Wool textile scheme

Max Madden (Sowerby) asked for a statement about the future of the wool textile scheme.

Mr Williams said: 'Under the original wool textile scheme, which was announced in July 1973 and revised in February 1975, applications had to be submitted by 31 December 1975 although applicants have until 31 December 1977 to complete their projects.

Total investment generated by the scheme is now expected to be nearly £76 million of which £56.9 million is for new plant and machinery and £17.7 million for new and modernised buildings. Total government assistance will be about £17 million.

'My department is currently considering proposals put forward by the Wool Textile EDC for a second stage scheme of assistance and it is hoped to make an announcement shortly.'

Major exporting countries

Jack Ashley (Stoke on Trent South) asked the Secretary of State for Trade to list the major exporting industries, giving their approximate percentage contribution to the value of exports.

Mr Dell said: 'Figures of exports of goods are compiled on a commodity basis and an exact attribution of them to particular industries is not possible. Nevertheless a reclassification has been made to allocate the commodity figures according to the industries of the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) of which they are the principal products. This analysis, with notes on the interpretation of the figures, was published in Business Monitor M10 1975. Currently figures are available for years 1970 to 1975, but information on a quarterly basis is being prepared and will be made available as soon as resources permit.

'The following list of major exporting industries and their percentage of total exports are based on the 1975 figures at Order level of the SIC.'

SIC order	Percentage of total
VII Mechanical engineering	16.1
XI Vehicles	15.4
V Chemical and allied industries	11.3
IX Electrical engineering	9.3
XII Metal goods n-e-s	8.3
III Food, drink and tobacco	6.4
VI Metal manufacture	5.5
XIII Textiles	4.7
Other	23.0

Overseas trade of the UK

Mr Ashley (Stoke on Trent South) asked for figures showing: (a) volume index figures for exports, (b) volume index figures for imports, (c) value figures for exports, (d) value figures for imports, (e) sterling effective exchange rate and (f) index figures for trade competitiveness stating the percentage increase or decrease since the preceding quarter.

Mr Dell gave the information as follows:

	Q4/74	Q1/75	Q2/75	Q3/75	Q4/75	Q1/76	Q2/76	Q3/76
Volume indices								
Balance of payments basis, seasonally adjusted								
Exports (1970=100)	126.5	128.9	122.6	120.0	128.3	131.6	137.1	132.8
% change	−5	+2	−5	−2	+7	+2½	+4	−3
Imports (1970=100)	133.0	125.4	122.2	127.4	127.2	124.0	137.1	137.3
% change	−2½	−5½	−2½	+4½	0	−2½	+10½	0
Value £ million								
Balance of payments basis, seasonally adjusted								
Exports	4,187	4,531	4,479	4,632	5,126	5,420	5,992	6,134
% change	−1	+8	−1	+3½	+11	+5½	+11	+2½
Imports	5,522	5,383	5,160	5,621	5,808	5,893	7,032	7,319
% change	+1	−2½	−4	+9	+3½	+1½	+19	+4
Sterling effective exchange rate								
% deviation from Smithsonian	−19.79	−21.57	−24.10	−27.36	−29.64	−31.07	−38.02	−39.71
% change	−3	−2	−3	−4½	−3	−2	−10	−3
Trade competitiveness(1)								
Index	93.7	93.8	95.6	(96.7)(2)	(98.1)(3)	(100)(3)	n.a.	n.a.
% change	0	0	+2	+1	+1½	+2	n.a.	n.a.

(1) Since this index is a ratio of export price indices for the UK and it's main competitors, a decrease in the index indicates an improvement and an increase indicates a worsening. Hence positive percentage changes show decreasing competitiveness and negative ones show increasing competitiveness.
(2) These are estimates based on 98% coverage of the component information on competitors' prices.
(3) This is an estimate based on 67% coverage of the component information on competitors' prices.

Financial incentives to exporters

Mr Ashley asked what financial incentives to exporters are permitted under Gatt and EEC regulations.

Mr Clinton Davis answered: 'Article 92 of the Treaty of Rome has the effect of prohibiting financial incentives for exports to other member states.

'As regards the Gatt, Article XVI(4) prohibits subsidies, which would generally include financial incentives, if they have the effect that the product is sold for export at a price lower than the comparable price charged for the like product in the domestic market.'

'Which countries, regulated by Gatt and EEC, are now using forbidden incentives for exporters as emergency measures?' asked Mr Ashley.

'I am not aware that other member countries of the community are operating incentives contrary to the Treaty of Rome,' replied Mr Clinton Davis.

'In the Gatt, complaints have been made about a number of measures including the so-called Disc scheme operated by the United States and cost escalation schemes operated by the United Kingdom and other countries; these complaints are still being discussed inside the Gatt.'

Import tariffs

Mr Gould asked for an estimate of the price advantage of imports into the UK of manufacturing goods derived by: (a) West Germany and (b) EEC countries in general from the removal of tariffs since 1 January 1973; and what movement in the value of sterling between 1973 and the present are estimated to have offset this advantage.

Mr Clinton Davis said: 'The information necessary for such estimates is not readily available. The average tariff level on imports of manufactures from the EEC was around 8 per cent at the end of 1972 and has since been reduced by four-fifths. The price advantage of some 6½ per cent which this affords could be offset, other things being equal, by a depreciation of sterling of slightly larger magnitude, to allow for the consequential increased cost of the import content of home produced goods. But many other factors also enter into the determination of relative competitive positions.'

Effects of devaluation

Mr Gould asked: 'By what percentage import price by manufacturers would be expected to rise after one, three and six months following a 10 per cent devaluation; and what are the corresponding estimates for exports of manufactures?'

'In present circumstances, it is difficult to form reliable estimates of the short run movements in import and export prices of manufactured goods resulting from a depreciation of sterling,' said Mr Clinton Davis. 'Over the longer run, however, the indications are that a 10 per cent devaluation of sterling would lead to a similar rise in import prices for manufactures and a 7½ per cent rise in export prices measured in sterling terms. There would, of course, also be repercussions on the volumes of imports and exports which would need to be taken into account in assessing the impact of depreciation on the balance of trade.'

Whisky for Japan

Ian Campbell (West Dunbartonshire) asked: 'What is the percentage of whisky exports to Japan relative to the total exports to that country for the last available period?'

'10.4 per cent by value during January to September 1976,' said Mr Clinton Davis.

Potatoes

Mr Wainwright asked for the total imports and exports of potatoes, in terms of weight, current values and August 1976 sterling values, respectively, in each year since 1965.

Mr Clinton Davis gave the following information for fresh or chilled potatoes:

	'000's of metric tons	£ million cif	'000's of metric tons	£ million fob
1965	251	12.2	132	2.4
1966	248	13.2	209	4.5
1967	350	17.5	70	2.3
1968	323	14.6	74	2.0
1969	260	14.0	82	2.4
1970	309	18.8	98	3.1
1971	270	14.7	82	2.4
1972	281	17.5	136	4.1
1973	232	21.3	221	8.4
1974	240	21.7	152	7.4
1975	375	39.3	148	12.7
January-September 1976	526	106.2	39	5.5

Estimates in terms of August 1976 sterling values are not available for individual commodities.

Thursday, 28 October

EEC regional grants

Alastair Goodlad (Northwich) asked what representations have been made to the EEC commission on the future percentage of grants for regional development to intermediate areas not having special development area status; and what representations have been made to the commission about the level of allocation of regional aid to north west England as compared with other parts of the UK.

Mr Cryer answered: 'The fund regulation allocates a specific quota of aid to each member state, but there is no sub-division of this among their constituent parts. However, the regulation specifies that priority must be given to projects in national priority areas. For the UK this means that projects located in the special development and development

areas have a higher priority than those in the intermediate areas. I have made no representation for changing this provision.'

Industrial output and productivity

Figures were asked for by Nigel Forman (Sutton, Carshalton) to show what has been the growth in industrial output and productivity in Great Britain over the last two years; compared with the achievements of each of our EEC partners over the same period.

Mr Huckfield gave the information as follows:

Percentage changes 1973-75

	Industrial output	Industrial productivity (output per head)
United Kingdom	– 8.3	– 4.8
Belgium	– 6.9	+ 8.8
France	– 6.7	– 4.9
West Germany	– 7.2	+ 2.2
Ireland	– 3.4	+ 2.7
Italy	– 5.2	– 9.0
Luxembourg	–19.2	–16.8
Netherlands	– 2.5	+ 1.8

Source: *Monthly Digest of Statistics.*
OECD Main Economic Indicators.

Notes:
1 Figures for Great Britain, as distinct from the United Kingdom, are not available.
2 No information is available for Denmark.
3 For other EEC countries, the information given is as nearly as possible on a basis comparable to that for the United Kingdom, but there are some differences in coverage. These are not thought to have any significant effect on the comparisons.

Labour productivity for all production industries in the United Kingdom fell by 4.8 per cent between 1973 and 1975. Estimates of the corresponding changes for our EEC partners over the same period are as follows:

Belgium	+ 8.8%
France	– 4.9%
Germany	+ 2.2%
Ireland	+ 2.7%
Italy	– 9.0%
Luxembourg	–16.8%
Netherlands	+ 1.8%

Notes:
1 Figures for Great Britain, as distinct from the United Kingdom, are not available.
2 No information is available for Denmark.
3 For our EEC partners, the employment figures used are not precisely comparable with the output measures. In general they relate to all employment in manufacturing only, but for Belgium they relate to wage earners in mining and manufacturing, and for Luxembourg to wage earners in all industry.
4 The output measure for Ireland relates only to mining and manufacturing; for other countries it relates to all industry.

Sources: *Monthly Digest of Statistics.*
OECD Main Economic Indicators.

Mobil Oil

John Moore (Croydon Central) asked why no public announcement was made on 29 September as to the offer of £10.3 million financial assistance to Mobil Oil.

'Unless there are special circumstances, offers of assistance under the accelerated projects scheme are not announced when the offers are made but published in accordance with the arrangements announced to the House on 31 July 1974,' said Mr Cryer. 'In this case the assistance to Mobil Oil exceeded £5 million, and the offer was announced to the House when the statement required under section 8(8) of the Industry Act 1972 was laid on 13 October.'

Meriden Workers' Co-operative

Audrey Wise (Coventry South West) asked: 'How many jobs have been saved to date by the giving of financial assistance to Meriden Workers' Co-operative; and what was the cost per job to public funds?'

'About 700 are currently employed by the co-operative at Meriden,' said Mr Williams. 'Total assistance provided to the co-operative under the Industry Act 1972 is £4.95 million of which £4.2 million was provided as a loan and £0.75 million as a grant.'

Power plant industry

Tom Litterick (Birmingham, Selly Oak) asked about representations from the power engineering industry about the availability of export credit facilities.

Mr Dell answered: 'The government is aware of the situation of the power plant industry and various representations have been made. These are being studied. Individual firms belonging to the power engineering industry make regular use of the facilities of the Export Credits Guarantee Department and are in regular touch with the department about their needs.'

British Overseas Trade Board

Mr Morris asked the following questions about BOTB: how many paying subscribers have used the export intelligence service; how many outward trade missions were conducted by the board; how many overseas exhibitions were supported by the board; how many overseas visitors and buyers of capital and consumer goods visited Great Britain under the board's Inward Mission Scheme during the years 1973, 1974, 1975 and 1976 to the latest available date; and how many projects under the Export Marketing Research Scheme have been approved; and what was the expenditure involved, respectively, for the years 1973-74, 1974-75, 1975–76, and 1976-77 to the latest available date.

Mr Clinton Davis gave the figures requested as follows:

Paying subscribers to the export intelligence service

30 September 1974	5,713
30 September 1975	6,826
30 September 1976	7,533
Outward trade missions	
1974	179
1975	222
1976 (estimate)	250
Overseas exhibitions supported	
1974	312
1975	335
1976 (estimate)	344

Note: At some exhibitions more than one group of firms may be supported.

Inward missions on capital and consumer goods

	Capital goods	Consumer goods	Total
1973	386	184	570
1974	300	97	397
1975	348	204	552
1976 (Jan-Sept)	261	131	392

Export marketing research

	Projects approved	Expenditure approved
1973-74	196	£290,000
1974-75	160	£184,000
1975-76	249	£302,000
1976-77 (Apr-Sept)	189	£226,000

UK share of world trade

Mr Gould asked information on the decline in the UK share of the Efta and £ sterling area markets for manufacturers since joining the EEC.

Mr Clinton Davis gave the following information:

United Kingdom percentage share of EFTA imports of manufactures for the year prior to joining the EEC and the three years since accession:

1972	1973	1974	1975
11.6	10.5	10.0	9.6

Source: OECD Statistics of Foreign Trade 'Series B'.

United Kingdom percentage share of total imports of the Sterling Area for similar periods. Recent statistics of imports of manufactures by direction are not available for the majority of countries in the area. The coverage of total imports represents 99.7 per cent of the countries in the Sterling Area. The figures for 1973 and 1974 are distorted by the increased value of oil imports, which it is not possible to exclude.

1972	1973	1974	1975
17.8	15.3	12.4	13.9

Source: IMF Direction of Trade.

Mr Morris asked what was the UK's share of world trade by price and volume, respectively, in each of the last four quarters for which figures are available.

Mr Clinton Davis gave the available information as follows:

Main manufacturing countries exports of manufactures (SITC sections 5-8) (Seasonally adjusted)

	1975			1976		
	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Value – UK share %	9.2	9.0	9.5	9.4	..	..
Volume indices (1970 = 100)						
United Kingdom	128.6	126.6	133.4	137.2	143.2	139.4
Main manufacturing countries	138.6	141.2	145.9	149.0	..	..
Relative volume (UK divided by main manufacturing countries)	92.8	89.7	91.4	92.1		

.. not available.

Source: UK Department of Industry.
Main manufacturing countries based on figures published by the OECD and UN.

Fishing boat survey regulations

Kenneth Warren (Hastings) asked if the inshore fishing boat survey regulations applying to vessels operating in the Sussex Sea Fisheries District are the same as those applying to similar boats working in the Thames Estuary.

Mr Clinton Davis answered: 'The survey requirements of the Fishing Vessels (safety Provisions) Rules 1975 (SI No 330/1975) apply to every mechanically propelled seagoing fishing vessel of 12 metres in length and over registered in the United Kingdom. "Sea-going" means proceeding outside the limits of smooth water or partially smooth water areas and those vessels operating in the Thames Estuary, which do not proceed outside these limits, are not subject to the survey requirements. Smooth or partially smooth water areas along the Sussex coast are very restricted but the same considerations apply.'

Marine safety regulations and 200 mile EEZ

Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley) asked what new vessels would be required to enforce marine safety regulations, routing and traffic separation schemes, special channels for ships carrying hazardous cargoes and safety zones around offshore installations within a 200 mile exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

Mr Clinton Davis replied: 'Identification of vessels contravening the requirements of traffic separation scheme in the Dover Strait

is undertaken by aircraft and naval vessels and the adequacy of these arrangements is kept under review. Any prosecutions are undertaken by the flag state. More generally, any machinery for enforcement in an exclusive economic zone would need to be considered in the light of the outcome of the United Nations Law of the Sea Conference.'

Marine pilotage in Scotland

Gordon Wilson (Dundee East) asked: 'Who has been consulted regarding the effects of changes in marine pilotage in Scotland?'

Mr Clinton Davis replied: 'Consultations on the effects of changes in marine pilotage in Scotland have recently been held with all the main pilotage authorities in Scotland, the United Kingdom Pilots Association, the Marine Pilotage Branch of the Transport and General Workers Union, the General Council of British Shipping, the Scottish Guild of Pilots and the Scottish Office. Discussions with these organisations on how Scottish interests should be represented on the proposed Central Pilotage Board are continuing and a statement will be made when definite proposals have been agreed.'

Effect of super stores on prices

Sir Thomas Williams (Warrington) asked for evidence of the effect of super stores on prices and trade in surrounding shopping centres.

Mr Fraser answered: 'There are not yet any generally accepted conclusions on this matter. A number of research studies have been commissioned, and some have recently been published. The indications are that in hypermarkets (ie with selling area above 50,000 square feet), food prices can be on average some 7 per cent lower than prices in other retail outlets. In other large food stores the price difference is apt to be less. There is no clear evidence that the presence of a hypermarket or superstore tends to lower the prices charged by competing food outlets. Their effect on local trade seems to be more marked on multiple stores than on smaller independent food retailers.'

Accidents in the home

Hugh Rossi (Haringey, Hornsey) asked whether a national surveillance system has yet been established for the collection of information on accidents in the home, as recommended by the report published in 1976 by the DPCP; and whether it is intended that separate statistics should be collected in respect of accidents related to architectural-glass.

Mr Fraser replied: 'The National Surveillance System for collecting information on accidents in and around the home from hospital accident and emergency departments is currently being established and is expected to be fully in operation, covering 20 hospitals, by the end of the year. Accidents involving architectural glass will be included and it will be possible to extract statistics relating to them.'

Potato prices

Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley) asked for a list of the average wholesale price per pound of potatoes in each of the last five years, expressed in current and in August 1976 sterling values.

Mr Maclennan gave the following average wholesale prices for potatoes since September 1971:

Monthly average wholesale price of home-grown potatoes (a) (pence per lb)

	Jan*	Feb	Mar	Apr*	May	Jun (b)	Jul (b)*	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1971									0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9
1972	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.3	2.0	1.5	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	2.2
1973	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.7	2.5	1.6	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.3
1974	1 3	1 2	1.2	1.3	1.3	3.4	2.0	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.7
1975	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.9	2.3	7.7	6.2	5.0	4.0	4.3	4.9	6.0
1976	7.6	8.8	9.5	11.8	9.7	7.8	5.2	7.5	7.8			

Source: MAFF.

* Five weeks in these months.

(a) Average wholesale prices at Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Gateshead, Nottingham and New Covent Garden.

(b) New potatoes.

It is not meaningful to compare wholesale prices for potatoes with the value of sterling.

Mr Wainwright asked for similar information in respect of retail prices of potatoes.

Mr Maclennan replied: 'Average retail prices of potatoes in September 1971 can be found on page 1033 of Vol LXXIX No 3 of the *Department of Employment Gazette*. Prices in more recent months appear in subsequent editions of the *Gazette*. It is not meaningful to compare retail potato prices with the value of sterling.

'Over the five years September 1971 to September 1976, the latest month for which information is available, average retail prices for potatoes rose by 537 per cent; over the same period the retail price index (all items) rose by 98 per cent.'

Friday, 29 October

Export consortia

Mr T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) asked for a list of the British export consortia in which the National Enterprise Board has been a participant and the success or otherwise of this sort of initiative in British export promotion.

Mr Huckfield said: 'The board holds 35 per cent of the equity of the Anglo-Venezuelan Railway Corporation Ltd. This company was formed to tender for a major construction contract in Venezuela but has recently announced that it has decided not to proceed with the tender under the conditions laid down. I am informed that earlier this year the board joined in partnership with two major British companies to tender for a large contract in Dubai, but the bid was unsuccessful. The board remains ready to consider proposals from companies to join consortia to tender for major overseas contracts which show promise of generating substantial UK exports. The government welcomes this initiative.'

Export promotion

Mr Morris asked what active steps are being taken to promote exports; and what success has been achieved during the current year to date.

Mr Dell replied: 'As president of the British Overseas Trade Board I have given my support to the board's work in promoting exports. The board offers a wide range of services for exporters and the high level of demand is a measure of the value placed on them by firms. I am chairman of the British Overseas Trade Advisory Council and one of the patrons of Export Year. I have met ministers and industrialists from a number of countries both in London and overseas and have discussed trade development. Exports in the first nine months of 1976 have increased in value by £3,904 million and in volume by 8 per cent compared with the same period in 1975, but this achievement is primarily due to the activities of British industry.'

BOTB budget

Mr Morris asked by how much, in real terms, the overseas spending budget of the British Overseas Trade Board has been reduced during 1976 because of the devaluation of the £ sterling.

Mr Dell answered: 'The budget in respect of direct expenditure by the British Overseas Trade Board on promotional support for UK exports is £16.4 million net, as published in Civil Estimates, Class IV, Vote 11. A Supplementary Estimate will be sought, subject to the overall ceiling set by cash limits, for any overspending of the published provision caused by wage and price increases, including additional sterling expenditure overseas resulting from variation in the exchange rates for sterling.'

EEC tariff on pineapple

Neil Marten (Banbury) asked: 'What is the tariff on pineapple imported into the EEC?'

Mr Clinton Davis said: 'On fresh pineapples the full rate of duty under the common customs tariff (which relates only to the original member states of the EEC) is 9 per cent. Imports from the countries and territories of the Lomé Convention are duty-free. The United Kingdom rates of duty are the same except that there is also a commonwealth preference rate of 7.2 per cent.

'On processed pineapples there are a number of different rates, according to whether or not they contain added spirit or added sugar and to the capacity of the immediate packing; the full rates in the common customs tariff range between the 22 per cent and 32 per cent, again with exemption under the Lomé Convention, and various preferences under the generalised system of tariff preferences for developing countries. The United Kingdom rates of duty are more complex; full details are available in the *HM Customs and Excise Tariff and Overseas Trade Classification*, a copy of which is available in the Library.'

Government assistance to industry

Mr Moore asked the Secretary of State for Industry to specify how much assistance was received by Lucas Industries, Ransome Hoffman and Pollard, Cyanamid of Great Britain, Dow Chemicals, BP Chemicals International Ltd and Lindsey Oil

Refinery Ltd; and on what projects moneys were to be expended by these companies.

Mr Williams replied: 'In accordance with arrangements announced to the House on 31 July 1974, offers of assistance are published in *Trade and Industry*, which is available in the Library of the House. I will arrange that in future the type of project assisted is also published.'

Protexol Ltd

Geoffrey Finsberg (Camden, Hampstead) asked when the last accounts were filed for Protexol Ltd, of Warwick House, 159 Lower High Street, Stourbridge, Worcestershire.

'Protexol Ltd has filed neither accounts nor an annual return since its incorporation in October 1973,' said Mr Clinton Davis.

'Default action has, however, been overtaken by an Order of Court dated 16 September 1976, upon a petition to the Stourbridge County Court, that the company be wound up under the provisions of the Companies Act 1948.'

Survey of fishing vessels

Tim Rathbone (Lewes) asked why inshore fishing vessels should be required to have the same survey carried out on them as that for distant water vessels.

Mr Clinton Davis answered: 'The Fishing Vessels (Safety Provisions) Rules 1975 set safety standards for the construction and equipment of new fishing vessels thus providing protection to skippers and crews from hazards from which inshore fishing vessels are unfortunately not immune. The rules set different requirements for different lengths of vessel and the survey fee, which is determined by the registered length of the vessel, reflects the extra surveyor time involved in the survey of larger vessels. In applying the rules to existing inshore fishing vessels full account is taken of their area and type of operation!'

Government sales

Ministry of Defence
Miscellaneous Stores

9 November 1976

Location
Ordnance Storage and Disposal Depot RAOC, Ruddington, Notts

Auctioneers
Arnold and Son, 'Modwena House' (Dept L), 13 Market Place, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffs DE14 1HD (tel. 0283-64657)

The stores which are lying at various depots include a large quantity of furniture, MT-electrical and electronic spares, aircraft components and ground equipment, various textiles, scrap metals,w ooden and metal boxes, tyres, engineering tools and equipment. Binoculars, cameras and photographic materials, batteries, cable, surveying equipment and a few vehicles.

Catalogues which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc., are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 20p, postage and packing 10p extra (postal orders only).

Industrial Property Plant and Machinery

VALUATIONS

SALES

UK & OVERSEAS

Henry Butcher & Co

London 01-405 8411

Leeds 0532 457356

ENCIRCLE TI 245 ON PAGE 398 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE

BRISTOL

THERE IS TO BE A PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF SURPLUS GOVERNMENT FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT AT THE DOE/PSA SUPPLIES DIVISION STORE, BAY 5, ASHTON VALE ROAD, BRISTOL, AVON BS3 2HJ. THE SALE WILL COMMENCE AT 1000 HOURS ON THE 17 NOVEMBER 1976 AND VIEWING WILL BE ALLOWED FROM 0900–1630 HOURS ON 16 NOVEMBER.

THE AUCTIONEERS ARE MESSRS STANLEY, ALDER AND PRICE, 7 ST STEPHENS STREET, BRISTOL, AVON BS1 1EG AND CATALOGUES WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THEM.

ENCIRCLE TI 246 ON PAGE 398 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Country of fresh opportunity

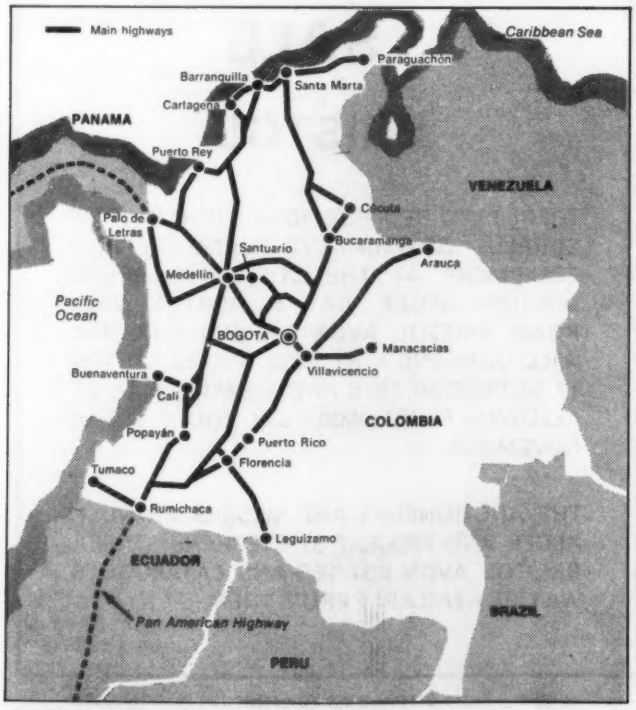
The British embassy in Bogota explains why the time is now ripe for British exporters to take a fresh look at the opportunities offered by Colombia, one of Latin America's growing markets.

With only a hiccup in 1975, Colombia has experienced strong economic growth averaging 6.5 per cent per annum since 1967. And the country is experiencing a minor boom largely as a result of vastly increased earnings from coffee exports. While this is creating some problems particularly as a result of inflationary pressures, the prospects for the Colombian economy are more promising than they have been for many years. The boom rests not only on coffee but also on greatly improved prices for cotton, vegetable oils and textiles.

Colombia's population of over 25 million is now mainly concentrated in urban centres. Apart from being the main centre of government, commerce, finance and culture, Bogota with over 3.5 million inhabitants, is the country's most important distribution centre and the biggest single market in the country. But Medellin, the centre of the textile industry, and Cali each have over 1 million inhabitants and Barranquilla on the Caribbean coast is approaching that total. The country has abundant natural resources including enormous potential for hydro-electric power, considerable mineral deposits – most of which are as yet undeveloped, including probably 60 per cent of the total coal deposits of South America – rich and fertile land and a well trained labour force.

Substantial structural transformation has taken place in the economy and the country is now well advanced in the transition from a predominantly rural, agricultural and largely self-contained economy to an urban, industrial economy more interdependent with the world economy. The manufacturing sector growth rate has since 1967 averaged 9 per cent to 10 per cent per annum while performance in the agricultural sector has nevertheless exceeded historical trends as growth of output has accelerated to well above 4 per cent per annum. The five largest industrial sectors are textiles, beverages, food products, chemicals and non-metallic minerals, accounting for over 60 per cent of the whole.

Colombia is likely to have a trade balance surplus of $500 million for 1976. Import licensing restrictions on many products including consumer goods have been relaxed and in other cases, particularly for capital goods, import tariffs have been reduced.



British exports

Britain's exports to Colombia in 1975, at nearly £29 million, showed an increase of 18.5 per cent on 1974, a year when our exports had already increased by 51.6 per cent. According to Colombian figures Britain is the only country to increase the value of exports during 1975 and we regained fourth place amongst the large exporting countries after the USA, West Germany and Japan. Nevertheless, Britain had only some 6 per cent of the market.

Best prospects are with machinery, both electrical and other, fertilisers, beverages, iron and steel, chemical elements and compounds, transport equipment, professional scientific and control instruments and other manufactured articles of metal.

Colombia has a development programme involving external finance of over $2,500 million and substantial parts of this are likely to be arranged through the World Bank and through the Inter-American Development Bank, which the UK has now joined. A recent major contract covered by a World Bank loan signed by the British Steel Corporation with Colombian National Railways was worth about £2.5 million.

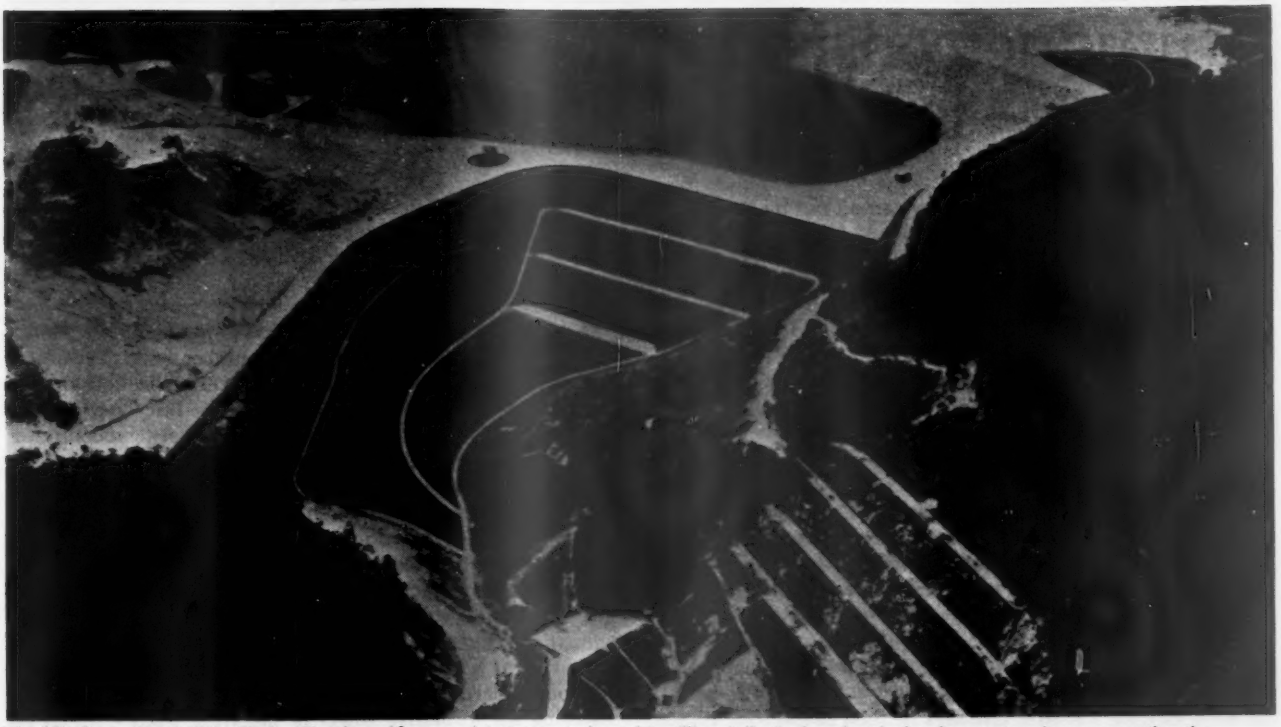
Development programme

The Colombian government has set out its social and economic goals in a three-year plan (1975-78). The main objective is to focus on programmes aimed at the urban and rural poor, export expansion and diversification and self-sufficiency in oil production.

Development areas which offer opportunities for British

Overseas publicity for UK trade fairs

British commercial representatives overseas are keen to publicise UK trade fairs and exhibitions, and welcome posters and brochures from fair organisers. But material must be sent well in advance – at least three clear months ahead of the event – and in sufficient quantity – two or three dozen copies for the representative in each area. A full list of addresses of commercial representatives is published as a quarterly supplement to *Trade and Industry*.



The Miraflores dam built by Taylor Woodrow (Overseas) Ltd as part of a multi-million dollar hydro-electric development project augmenting the power supply for the city of Medellin in Colombia.

participation include the exploitation of natural resources (minerals, oil and gas), urban development, transport (roads, railways, ports and airports) and telecommunications. These provide ample scope not only for sales of capital goods but also for British skills and specialised knowledge.

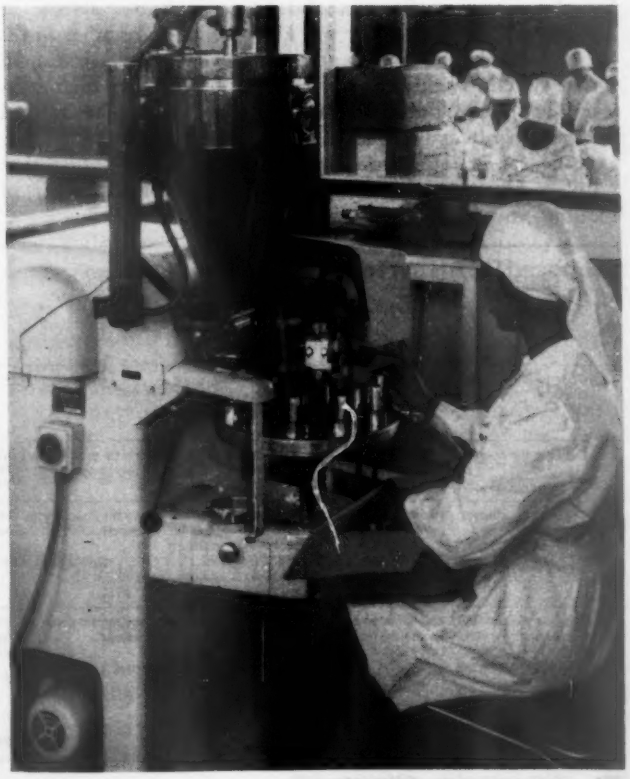
And the free port of San Andrés should not be forgotten. It is a captive market worth $6 million per annum entirely for consumer goods, and particularly for beverages, foodstuffs preserved and tinned, toiletries, luggage and toys, and porcelain and china.

Assistance for exporters

The official export services of the Department of Trade are able to assist exporters interested in the Colombian market. Inquiries should be addressed to Commercial Relations and Exports Division, Department of Trade, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5289.

The commercial department of the British embassy in Bogota can be contacted at Apartado Aereo No 4508.

Producing ointments and creams in the Glaxo laboratories at Bogota.



UK businessmen going overseas

British businessmen intending to travel overseas are urged in their own interests to make the earliest possible contact, before going abroad, with the Export Services and Promotions Division of the Department of Trade (at the appropriate regional office for firms outside London, and Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU for firms in London and the South East of England). The department, in co-operation with commercial officers at embassies, high commissions and consulates overseas, is in a position to provide advice when it is required, and to help, where appropriate, in making trade contacts related to the purpose of the visit. Even where a businessman does not require specific assistance it is valuable for him to meet the commercial officers to get up-to-date information about the market. The Department of Trade would therefore welcome receiving notification of any businessmen intending to travel overseas. To enable the overseas commercial officers to be of the greatest assistance to UK visitors the department needs to be able to brief the overseas officers as fully as possible. The range of information required for this purpose includes details of the firm, their products/services and the purpose and background to the visit.

A unique consignment reference number – is it desirable or feasible?

This article describes a study being carried out by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) working party on trade facilitation at the United Nations in Geneva. The study is concerned with the feasibility of providing a unique consignment reference number for international trade transactions. The UK delegation to the ECE has been asked to comment on the study by the end of 1976 on behalf of UK trade and commerce.

International trade depends for its efficiency on keeping constant track of each individual consignment. In the exchange of traditional trade documentation between individual organisations in the trading chain, each organisation supplies – on each document – its own reference number.

This method of consignment referencing works perfectly well since each link in the trading chain will normally only communicate with the links on either side. As computer systems are developed which may well be accessed by several links in the chain for the communication and retrieval of information the need for a common reference becomes paramount – a reference which can be used by each party involved in the trade transaction.

The ECE team carrying out the study on this subject has the following terms of reference:

> 'To determine the structure and method of implementation of a unique consignment reference number system, capable eventually of eliminating the need to show, on documents and data exchange messages, a multiplicity of individual references particular to each party involved in trade transactions.
>
> The system proposed should, as far as possible, provide some link with the marking of the goods and facilitate reconciliation between goods and documents and identification of the party responsible for disposal of the goods.'

The concept of allocating a unique reference number to a consignment (UCRN) will be familiar to anyone who uses airfreight, where the air waybill number has this function. Equally, anyone who uses the Laces computer system at London Heathrow Airport will know that this number forms the basis of the referencing and retrieval system for records held on the system. Within the surface transport industry there is no one equivalent to the air waybill number. On both manual and computer systems there are a multitude of unique references, ranging, for example, from a combination of VAT registration number, plus a rotational number, to a combination of port of loading, voyage number and bill of lading number.

As computer systems are developed to process international trade data, so will 'unique' reference number systems be developed. So long as the computer systems remain 'in-house' these types of developments will work admirably. But, once there is a requirement for exchange of information between computer systems, problems of incompatability could arise between referencing systems which are acceptable only within a limited area of use. Even more undesirable from a trader's point of view would be the situation where it becomes commercially desirable or even necessary to provide data or to receive data from a computer system provided or run by another organisation, where the system requirements include the acceptance of an existing referencing system designed primarily for the computer system without any meaningful or easily identifiable component parts.

During the formative stages of the ECE study – which included practical international trials of proposed numbering systems – several basic principles emerged. In the UK it was generally agreed that if a standard method of marking goods could be linked to a UCRN system, then this rationalisation alone would go a long way towards compensating for some of the overheads inherent in a standard numbering system. The experience gained from practical trials indicated that the UCRN concept could not totally replace in-house referencing systems, although the trials proved that the UCRN provided a very useful common access reference to the chain of organisations and companies involved at both the export and import end of the consignment movement.

Having considered these and other arguments, the ECE team has agreed four basic principles: first, the UCRN has to be a unique code identifying a single consignment and the business transaction from which it originated; second, the UCRN should relate the consignment to the main parties concerned with the transaction; third, the UCRN should also relate the reference used on documents to the markings shown on goods (which should include only that information which is significant for the importer); and fourth, the UCRN

Proposed UCRN systems

Advantages and disadvantages

							Advantages	Disadvantages
1	Code for the country of export *GB*	Identification code for the exporter *243 1700 02*	Exporter's sequential number *21031*				Short reference number.	The number does not relate to the importer and would be diffcult to use for the purpose of marking goods.
2	Code for the country of export *GB*	Identification code for the exporter *243 1700 02*	Exporter's sequential number *21031*	Code for the country of import *FR*	Identification code for the importer *214 5126*	Importer's sequential number *33736*	Meets all of the requirements laid down in the basic principles.	Excessively long reference number.
3	Code for the country of export *GB*	Identification code for the exporter *243 1700 02*	Importer's sequential number or exporter's sequential number *21031 or 33736*	Code for the country of import *FR*	Identification code for the importer *214 5126*		Meets all of the requirements laid down in the basic principles and the reference number is slightly shorter than that of the second proposal.	Confusion could arise because of the lack of obvious recognition of the sequential number which could be originated either by the exporter or the importer.
4	Code for the country of export *GB* or *GB*	Identification code for the exporter *243 1700 02* or *243 1700 02*	Importer's sequential number prefixed by 'Z' *Z 33736* or Exporter's sequential number prefixed by 'A' *A 21031*	Code for the country of import *FR* or *FR*	Identification code for the importer *214 5126* or *214 5126*		Meets all of the requirements laid down in the basic principles. The reference number is shorter than the second solution. The use of the prefix letters A or Z with sequential number overcomes the disadvantage of the third proposal.	

system chosen should allow for recognition of part shipments or part orders.

During the development of these basic principles, several proposals for the composition of a UCRN were put forward. These are summarised in the table on the opposite page with their advantages and disadvantages.

Length of reference

Without doubt, the number of digits contained in a UCRN is a question which at first sight causes the most anxiety. Of the proposals set out opposite, the fourth appears to have the majority support of the study team. Using this principle for a consignment moving from the UK to France the reference number might be as follows:

1	Code for the country of export	*GB*	(Using the international standard country code – ISO 3166)
2	Identification code for the exporter	*243 1700 02*	(Using the VAT number)
3	Sequential number (Importer's order number)	*Z 33736*	(5 numeric – maximum)
4	Code for the country of import	*FR*	(ISO 3166 country code)
5	Identification code for the importer	*214 5126*	(French estimate – seven digits)

For the marking of packages it would be possible to reduce the number of digits by using only items 3 to 5 above, i.e. the details of interest to the importer – importer's order number/importing country code/importer's identification code – Z 33736 FR 214 5126 (15 digits). This reduction for package marking would only be possible if the importer's order number were used rather than a sequential number allocated by the exporter.

The full unique consignment reference number shown above is made up of meaningful elements, all of which are needed for other purposes in the country of export and the country of import. This, coupled with the facts that the UCRN could provide a common access number for all parties concerned with the movement of a consignment and that some rationalisation of cargo marks and numbers might be achieved, needs to be weighed against the consideration of the total number of digits proposed. The study team has suggested that the use of alphanumeric codes for the identification of importers and exporters should not be ruled out since such a code might help to reduce the number of digits in the UCRN, in addition to facilitating handling operations by simplifying the recognition of importer's identity from the marking of packages.

Implementation

It is clear that if an ECE recommendation on unique consignment referencing is drafted, it will be necessary to underline the need for national authorities to develop or recommend a method of exporter/importer identification as quickly as possible, otherwise it will not be possible to introduce the system.

It is probable that not all users will wish to introduce the system with the same degree of urgency. In some countries, for example, there may be a greater interest initially in introducing only that part of the UCRN system which relates to the marking of goods. In other countries where computer systems are being planned which include an inventory control of trade consignments, it might well be found essential to introduce the full reference system, and indeed, there have been instances where the development of such computer systems have been held back for the lack of a UCRN system.

Gathering users' views

In the UK, the General Chamber of British Shipping is gathering the views of shipping companies on the ECE proposals, while HM Customs and Excise – probably the government department which could be most affected by the proposals – is developing its own views internally.

The Simplification of International Trade Procedures Board (Sitpro) has the task of gathering the views of the organisations and companies involved in international trade and you are asked to complete the reply slip below indicating your opinions on the subject. Should there be sufficient response, Sitpro would be willing to mount a seminar where the subject would be explained in more detail and users would have the opportunity to express freely their own views.

Please return to:
SITPRO, 11-12 Waterloo Place, London SW1Y 4AU

UCRN SYSTEM

Please tick the appropriate boxes

In my view the development of a UCRN system is unnecessary ☐

My view is that the UK should support the development of

Proposal number 1 ☐

Proposal number 2 ☐

Proposal number 3 ☐

Proposal number 4 ☐

as set out in the table on the opposite page.

In my view the development of a UCRN system is necessary, but a different method should be chosen. ☐
(Suggestions enclosed)

I would like to attend a seminar where the subject could be discussed in more detail. ☐

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Type of organisation .....
(eg shipper, forwarder, carrier etc)

ENCIRCLE TI 252 ON PAGE 398 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

European community news

Foreign ministers reach 'extremely satisfactory' fisheries agreement

At their meeting in The Hague on 29-30 October, foreign ministers agreed to extend the community's fishing limits to 200 miles and adopted mandates which will allow the commission to start negotiating framework agreements governing fishing access to community waters with non-community countries.

Describing the outcome of the discussions as 'extremely satisfactory', Anthony Crosland, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said that Britain had been urging the council to introduce 200-mile limits to coincide with similar extensions by the United States and Canada at the turn of the year.

Britain, he said, had also pressed for a start to negotiations with Iceland since the agreement governing access by British fishermen to Icelandic waters was soon due to expire.

When EEC ministers met on 18-19 October agreement was blocked because Ireland insisted on making progress on the 200-mile extension question conditional on her own fishing industry being given preferential treatment under the community's common fisheries policy (cfp) regime, when it was revised to take account of the fishing limits extension.

The council agreed that, in applying the cfp, account should be taken of the vital needs of fishing communities in such areas as Ireland, the north of the UK and Greenland.

Foreign ministers also agreed on the need to secure the continued and progressive development of the Irish fishing industry on the basis of the Irish government's fisheries development programme.

Mr Crosland made it clear that the revision of the cfp with its definitions of coastal belts was still a matter for negotiation. Britain's claim set out last May for a coastal belt of up to 50 miles within community waters had not been changed.

British president for ECSC

Basil de Ferranti was elected president of the EEC's economic and social committee on 27 October. His term will run for two years. Mr de Ferranti, who is deputy chairman of Ferranti Ltd, succeeds M H. Canonge of France. He has been a member of the ECSC since 1973.

Agriculture: Britain puts the case for mcas

Britain resisted any change in the value of the 'green pound' at the council of agriculture ministers in Luxembourg on 25 and 26 October. Britain's position on this issue and other main points discussed at the council meeting were explained in a written parliamentary reply on 27 October by John Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Attending the meeting with Mr Silkin was Robert Maclennan, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection. They were joined by Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, on the afternoon of 26 October for a joint meeting of agriculture and finance ministers to discuss agrimonetary questions.

Mr Silkin went on to explain that the representative rate for the Danish krone was devalued by 4 per cent with effect from 28 October. He said ministers had discussed the commission's suggestion for possible limits on monetary compensatory amounts (mcas) and a possible automatic mechanism for adjusting mcas. Both he and Mr Barnett had made clear the importance of the UK's counter-inflation programme and stressed that mcas benefited not only the UK consumers but also other member states by maintaining consumption and helping in the disposal of the community's agricultural production. He added that no decisions on the commission's suggestions were sought or taken.

The commission had stated, said Mr Silkin, that they intended to make a small change in the method of calculation of mcas for pigmeat. This would take effect on 8 November; it would not result in as large a change as the UK's earlier suggestion, which remained under discussion, but it would be helpful to UK processors of pigmeat.

Outlining other subjects taken at the council, Mr Silkin said that the proposed action programme for improving the balance in the community's milk market had been discussed, as well as the ending of the scheme for compulsory incorporation of skimmed milk powder in animal feed.

There were also preliminary discussions on the proposals for a co-responsibility levy on milk, on community aid for milk in schools, and on community aid for an accelerated programme for eradication of brucellosis, tuberculosis and bovine leucosis, but no decisions had been taken.

'I made it clear that the proposed tax on vegetable and marine oils and the proposed wide-ranging ban on investment aids in the milk sector were wholly unacceptable,' he said, adding that the proposal on the exclusive use of milk products was not discussed.

Japan, fisheries and commission review on summit agenda

Britain will ensure that EEC relations with Japan are discussed at the next community heads of government meeting in The Hague on 29 and 30 November. In a 27 October Commons statement about business to be taken in the council of the European community during November, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs David Owen explained that he also expected fisheries to be discussed at the summit meeting, as well as the Tindemans report on European union and the terms of reference for a review of the commission which its new president is to be asked to undertake.

In addition, seven meetings of the council of ministers were proposed for November, said Dr Owen. At the transport council on the 4th of the month, ministers would be exchanging views on issues relating to maritime transport. They might also consider roadworthiness tests, a minimum level of training for road transport drivers, adjustments of national taxation systems in relation to commercial vehicles, and a progress report on the draft third social regulation.

On 8 November finance ministers would have their usual monthly discussions of the economic situation in the community. They would also consider the Duisenberg proposals on exchange rate co-ordination and economic convergence. At a second finance council on 22 November, Dr Owen explained

that ministers would consider the adoption of the annual report on the economic situation in the community and of the fourth medium-term economic policy programme.

Ministers at the development council on 8 November would discuss financial and technical aid by the community to non-associated developing countries. They would also consider the harmonisation of development policies within the community.

Foreign ministers at their two-day meeting on 15 and 16 November would continue their study of the Tindemans report and would consider progress of the work in the four commissions and the overall negotiating objectives for the final phase of the Conference on International Economic Co-operation. They would also discuss the internal and external aspects of the common fisheries policy, the generalised preference scheme for 1977, the uniform passport, and relations between the community and the Comecon countries, Iran, Greece, Yugoslavia, Turkey and Israel. Ministers would have before them a report on negotiations between the community and the Mashraq countries (Egypt, Syria and Jordan).

Agriculture ministers, who, said Dr Owen, would be meeting on 22 and 23 November, would consider the commission's proposal for reducing surpluses in the dairy sector. They were also expected to discuss proposals for a potatoes regime, measures for improving agricultural structure and marketing, the water content of frozen chickens, and community animal health legislation.

Amendments and notifications proposed by the European assembly to the draft 1977 community budget would be considered by budget ministers on the 23rd of the month and, at a meeting on 29 November, education ministers would consider the education committee's report on the transition from school to working life.

ICL appointed main contractor for new EEC computer system

The European commission announced on the 22 October its intention to replace its present computing facility and has appointed International Computers Ltd (ICL) as the prime contractor for the provision of a new computer system. The central component of the system will be an ICL 2980 system. The contract is estimated to be worth over £4 million to ICL.

ICL will be entering into contractual negotiations with the commission and planning is already under-way by ICL staff in association with commission personnel to establish the optimum timetable to achieve the commission's objectives.

The EEC decided to replace its current computer systems because of a predicted 25 per cent per annum growth rate in the commission's requirements, the need to introduce major teleprocessing facilities and the desirability of rationalising the current mixture of hardware used (IBM and CII equipment), both in-house and with bureaux.

ICL will act as prime contractor. The conversion of some 60 per cent of the commission's current workload, which comprises the major applications, and their transfer to the new computer system, will be ICL's responsibility. The new computer will be installed at the commission's computer centre in Luxembourg. ICL has proposed a three megabyte 2980 to run under the VME/B operating system, with 12 EDS 200, two fixed-head discs, eight magnetic tape units and a variety of input/output devices.

Several sub-contractors chosen by the commission will provide an extensive communication network. At present it is planned that this will include over 100 on-line visual display units which will be sited in Luxembourg and Brussels.

The three main application areas are statistical, administrative and information retrieval for which the Status information retrieval pakage, first developed by the UK Atomic Energy Authority, will be used.

One unique feature will be the use of the new computer system on a bureau basis for specific applications once they are fully converted and proven, until the computer is formally handed over to the commission.

European parliament to go on the air

A television and radio broadcasting unit to cover the proceedings of the European parliament is to be installed by mid-1978, possibly in time for the first sitting of a directly-elected assembly.

The decision was the result of an amendment agreed during a European parliament debate from 25 to 27 October when the EEC budget for 1977 of about 9,000 million units of account (approximately £3,500 million) was approved.

The broadcasting unit will comprise four television cameras and three video tape machines, which it is hoped will provide continuous coverage of the proceedings. A studio and technical controls will also be provided to enable television and radio stations in Europe to prepare their own programmes for transmission in their own countries.

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

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Doing profitable business in the EEC

A one-day seminar to examine in depth the basic factors of doing profitable business in the EEC is being organised by the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The seminar which will be held at the Royal Festival Hall on 23 November will include talks and discussions by experts on marketing, EEC regulations, finance, purchasing, distribution, personnel and the presentation of a case history.

Further details are available from Anita Russell, London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AB, tel. 01-248 4444 ext. 124.

The console of the ICL 2980 which is the proposed central component of the new computer system for the commission.

Euro-Arab dialogue could ease path for European firms in Arab world

Practical work at meetings of various working committees and specialist sub-groups of experts of the Euro-Arab dialogue is now beginning to move beyond the purely preparatory stage. The dialogue is still predominantly a forum for explaining attitudes and exchanging views. But discussions are under way which could help to ease the path of European firms wanting to do business in the Arab world.

The idea of a dialogue between the nine members of the European community and the 20 members of the Arab league was born in the aftermath of the October war of 1973. In the words of the memorandum issued after the first joint meeting of the two sides in Cairo in June 1975, the proposed dialogue was intended 'to rediscover, renew and invigorate the links that effect these neighbouring regions, to eliminate misunderstandings that gave rise to difficulties in the past; and to establish the basis for future co-operation embracing a wide area of activities to the benefit of both sides'.

Following the Cairo meeting, European and Arab experts in a number of economic, technical and cultural fields met jointly in Rome and Abu Dhabi to define in some detail the areas where the two sides considered that co-operation could be most usefully pursued.

The Euro-Arab dialogue then entered a new phase following the first meeting of the general committee (the senior body of European and Arab ambassadors responsible for overall co-ordination in the dialogue) in Luxembourg on 18-21 May of this year. Since then, various working committees and specialist sub-groups of experts have met separately, sometimes in Europe, sometimes in the Arab world and the atmosphere at these meetings has been business-like.

Progress is being made, for example, in the specialist sub-group on standardisation. The experts in this group have exchanged a considerable amount of detailed information and have had wide-ranging discussions which should help to resolve problems connected with standardisation.

There is also a specialist sub-group dealing with the question of contract conditions, an issue which can give rise to difficulties for European firms.

A sub-group of experts on investment protection is considering what action might be taken to complement the protection already afforded by existing bilateral investment protection agreements between individual members of the community and member states of the Arab league.

Other expert groups are dealing with broader issues arising from the determination of the Arab world to improve the standard of living of their citizens through speedy industrialisation on the one hand, and agricultural development on the other.

A sub-group on refining and petrochemicals is discussing the ambition of the oil producers to move from simply selling crude to developing their own refining and petrochemical industries.

A working committee on scientific and technological cooperation is considering the possibilities of training and other forms of cooperation in a wide number of fields such as desalination, radiation protection, marine environment and solar energy.

The agricultural experts are considering a number of agricultural development schemes in the Arab world, notably in the Sudan. These schemes would be major undertakings and the preliminary discussions are bound to take time.

It is perhaps ironic that, whereas the Euro-Arab dialogue received considerable publicity during its embryonic stage, there has been little news of it since it actually got under way. Yet the organisational structure alone is impressive, with seven different working groups and some 10 specialist sub-groups of experts operating under the direction of the general committee.

Although the experts are in most cases government officials, representatives of the private sector and of nationalised industries participate in some of the sub-groups. In this way a network of personal contacts is being forged which could help to promote mutual understanding, and facilitate closer co-operation to the benefit of both sides in the dialogue.

EIB global loan to aid industrial development in Kenya

A global loan equivalent to two million units of account (mua), about 18.5 million Kenya Shillings, has been granted by the European Investment Bank to the Development Finance Company of Kenya Ltd. (DFCK), which will on-lend the funds, with the EIB'S agreement in each case, to support the development of various industrial ventures throughout the country.

This is the first loan to be provided by the EIB from its own resources under the terms of the Lomé convention and also the first financing operation by the bank for investments in an English-speaking African country.

A provision of the Lomé convention, concluded with 46 states in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific, is that the EIB shall make available up until 1980 390 mua in the form of long-term loans from its own resources.

This is the first time the EIB has employed the global loan technique in Africa. This form financing, which enables the bank to channel of resources through experienced local institutions, has been used to effect in most of the EEC member countries and also Greece, Turkey and Portugal.

The global loan has been granted for 11 years, including a four-year grace period. The interest rate will be 6 per cent, after application, as provided for under the Lomé convention, of an interest subsidy of 3 per cent, drawn from the grant aid resources of the community's European development fund.

Karl Czernetz visits Roy Jenkins

Karl Czernetz (left) president of the Council of Europe Assembly, is greeted by president-designate of the European commission Roy Jenkins, at his Whitehall office in London where the two met for talks. Herr Czernetz was in Britain on 25-26 October for talks with government ministers and political leaders.

Tariff quotas 1976 – Portugal

Following the signature of the protocol to the EEC/Portugal agreement (see *Trade and Industry*, 1 October page 25), certain changes arise in the 1976 tariff quotas for Portugal.

With effect from 1 November 1976 the UK share of the tariff quota for Port wines in bottle has been increased (an additional amount from the community reserve may be available for Madeira) and there have been certain reductions in the quota duties for Madeira and Setubal Muscatel. Any inquiries should be made to the Tariff Quota Registration Unit at HM Customs and Excise, King's Beam House, Mark Lane EC3R 7HE. tel. 01-626 1515 ext. 2570.

Secondly an order – the Import Duties (Quota Relief) (No 5) Order 1976, SI 1976 No 1786 (obtainable from HMSO) – has been made amending the Import Duties (Quota Relief) (Paper, Paperboard and Printed Products) Order 1975 in respect of schedule 3 relating to Portugal. The order, comes into operation on 18 November. It replaces the tariff quota for goods of various headings of chapter 48 (exhausted earlier this year) by quotas for Kraft liner of tariff heading 48.01 C.II. and for goods of headings 48.01 E. and 48.05 B. and alters the quota for goods of chapter 49 from value to weight terms.

Inquiries about this notice should be made to General Division 2 of the Department of Trade, Room 333 Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ.

Trade and Industry

European public holiday guide

Pull out this section and pin the centre spread to your notice board

Compiled by EEC Information Unit, Department of Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, 01-215 4301 (six lines) fr

1977			Belgium	Denmark	Eire	France	W. Germany	Italy [d]	Luxemi
January	1	Sat	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
	6	Thurs					■ [b]		
	8	Sat							
February	11	Fri						■ [a]	
	21	Mon							■
March	17	Thurs			■				
	19	Sat						■	
April	7	Thurs		■					
	8	Fri		■	■		■		
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	21	Thurs							
	25	Mon						■	
	30	Sat							
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	6	Fri		■					
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	17	Tues							
	19	Thurs	■	■		■	■		■
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December	1	Thurs							
	6	Tues							
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	26	Mon	■	■	■		■	■	■
	27	Tues			■				■
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a Half-day.
b In various of following Catholic länder: Baden-Wurtemberg, Bavaria, Saarland, North-Rhine Westphalia, Rhineland-Palatinate.
c In Lisbon onl
d Subject to co

Trade and Industry puts the facts first Editorial and circulation office: Trade and Industry, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, Lo

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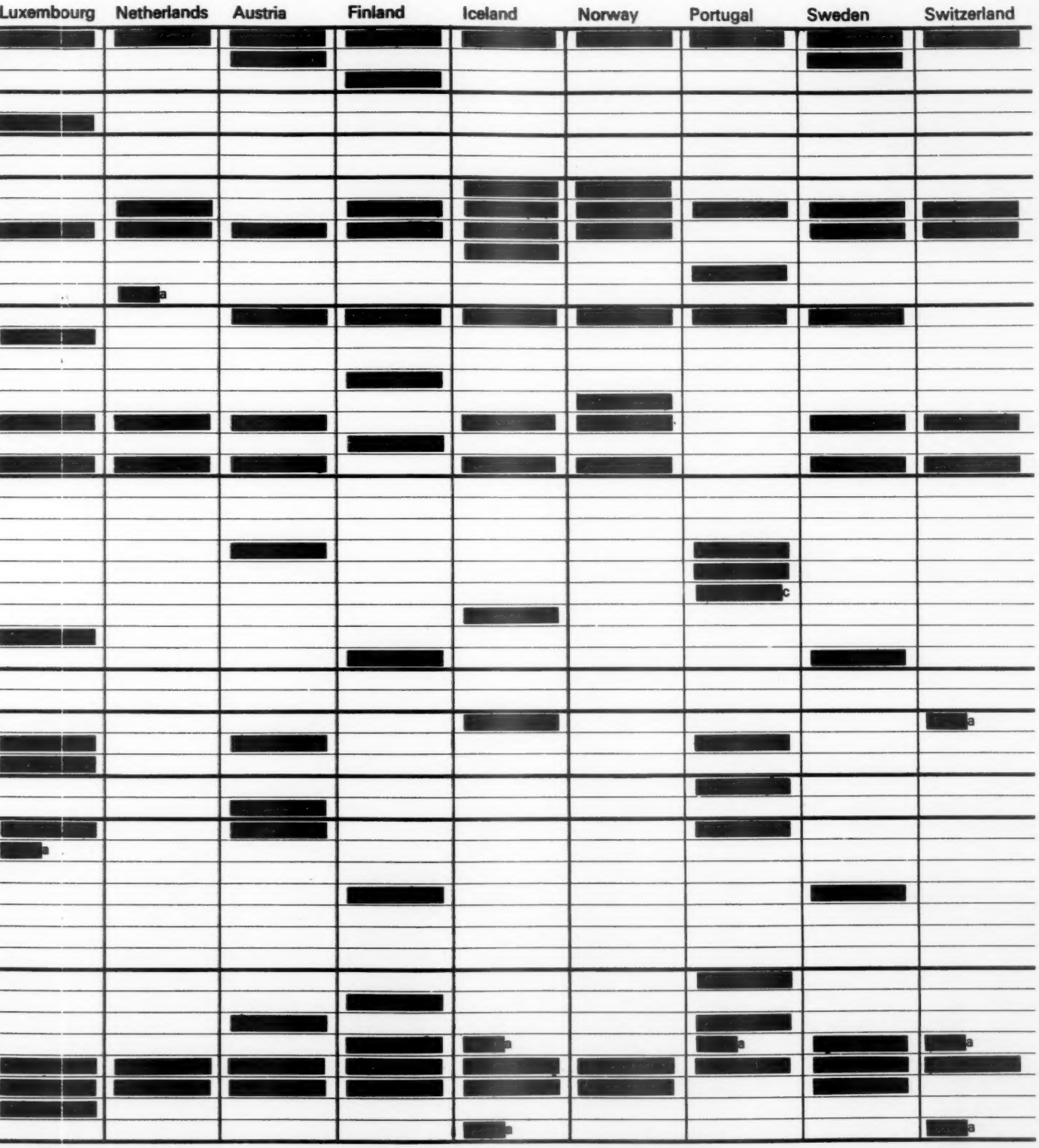

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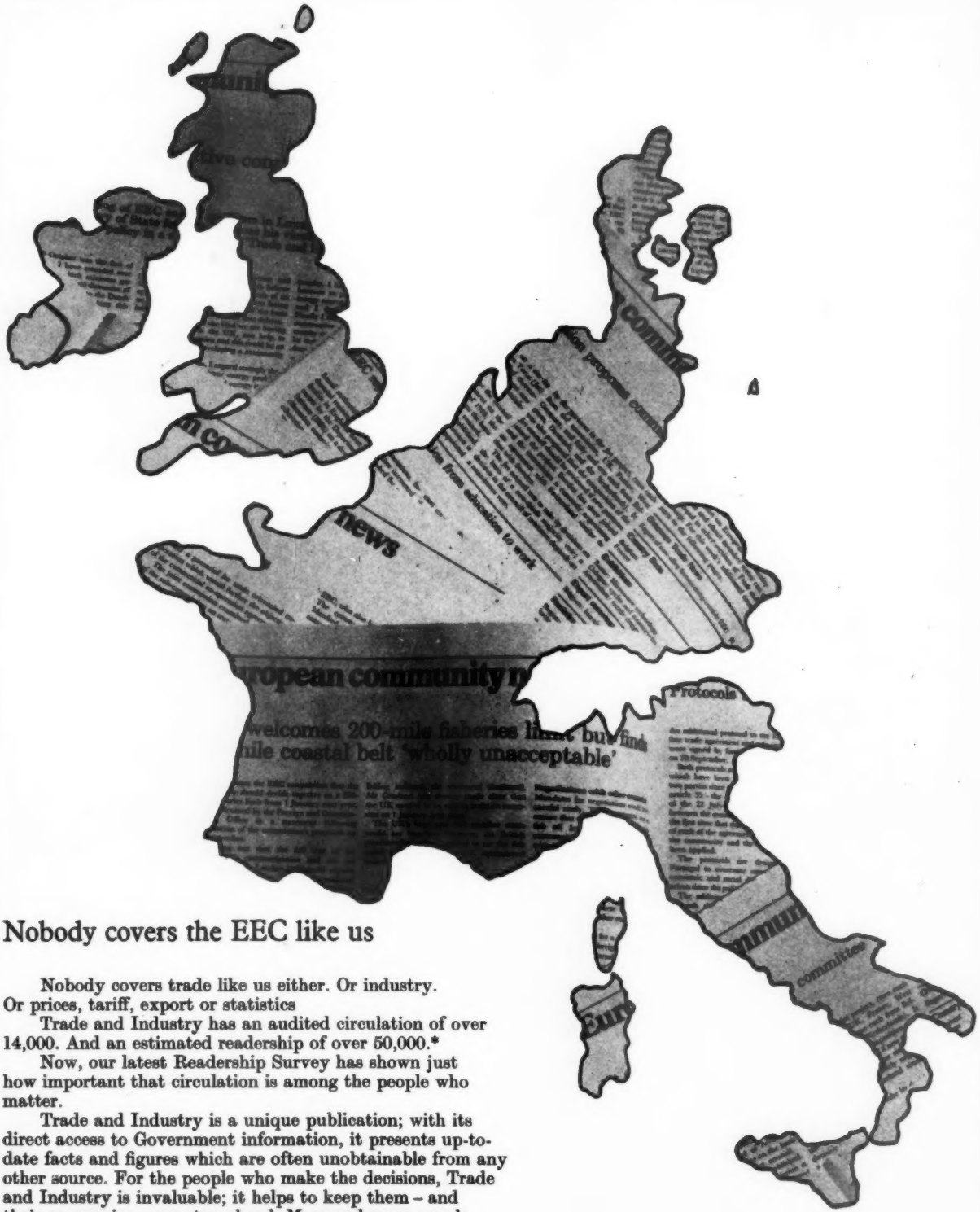

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*Audit Bureau of Circulation certified average circulation July-December 1975: 14,182 copies. Readership survey carried out in April 1976 gives estimated readership of over 50,000.

Trade and Industry: the decision makers' magazine.

Overseas trade news

Dell urges consultants to take advantage of expanding markets

British consultants' distinctive contribution to the country's earnings from abroad goes 'neither unrecognised nor forgotten by the government' said Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade in a speech to the British Consultants Bureau in London on 28 October.

He said that the foreign earnings of British consultant engineers, architects, surveyors and the rest earned more than £200 million in 1975 which amounted to 14 per cent of the UK's total invisible earnings for 1975 – a contribution far too precious for any government to overlook.

'But,' Mr Dell continued, 'while I congratulate you on what you have already achieved, more importantly, I believe an outstanding opportunity now exists for a further major growth in foreign earnings by British consultants.

'More and more countries in the developing world, and most obviously in the Middle East states, are pushing ahead with developing their economies at a faster rate than their own existing industrial skills allow, and are looking to the expertise available from established industrial countries like Britain to aid them.'

Mr Dell said that British consultants had already made a very considerable contribution to the breathtaking expansion now going on in countries like Saudi Arabia, Iran and the Gulf states, and Britain's prestige there was high. He believed that the UK could take advantage of this reputation to win an even greater share of the lucrative consultancy contracts now coming forward in the Middle East, to the benefit of this country, of the individual consultant firms, and of the client countries themselves.

Mr Dell concluded: 'The potential for economic development in the Middle East during the next few years remains staggering. Projects for new hospitals, harbours and universities are mushrooming. And by winning a bigger share of this business in their own field, British consultants can not only directly benefit our balance of payments but also sometimes help to provide some important openings for British construction firms and British goods.'

Duke aims for the bull

Duke of Kent, vice-chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, enjoys a game of darts with Barry Twomlow, 'darts ambassador' for Unicorn Products Ltd of Forest Hill, during his visit to one of the company's factories on 27 October. The visit was part of the BOTB's export campaign in South London, Surrey and Sussex. On 28 October, over 300 delegates attended the BOTB export conference at the Fairfield Halls, Croydon.

Imports to USA of speciality steels under quota

As was reported in *Trade and Industry*, 29 October, page 310, the President of the United States proclaimed on 11 June 1976 the imposition of quotas on imports into the United States of certain articles of stainless steel or alloy tool steel from the EEC (including the UK) as well as from other countries.

The United States government has decided that in the period 14 June to 13 December 1976, imports of the products concerned should not exceed 60 per cent of the annual quotas covering the period 14 June 1976 to 13 June 1977. The table below, derived from statistics made available by the United States Customs Service, shows the products which are subject to quotas, the US quotas on imports from the EEC for the period 14 June to 13 December 1976, and US imports of the products concerned from the EEC during this period as at 22 October.

The alloy tool steel quota had been understood to be filled. But it is now understood that the US customs service have included imports of rolled bar, which are not restricted, in their calculation of alloy tool steel imports into the United States during the first half of the restraint period. This means that there is a shortfall of 442 short tons in the EEC alloy tool steel quota for the first six month period. The EEC quota for alloy tool steel is therefore being re-opened.

When quotas are filled, any exports of those products which are on the way to the United States can either be kept in bond in the United States, for which a charge will be made, or they can be re-exported to another market. In the case of stainless plate, no further deliveries from bond will be allowed by the US customs until the second period of the quota commences on 14 December 1976.

It is possible that the US Government will establish an EEC quota for bearing steel (probably before 15 December) which will be separate from and not diminish the alloy tool steel quota.

Inquiries should be addressed to Commercial Relations and Exports Division, tel. 01-215 5629.

Product	US import quotas for period 14 June to 13 December 1976 (pounds weight)	US imports during this period as at 22 October (pounds weight)
Sheets and strips of stainless steel (item 923.20)	18,960,000	14,973,496
Plates of stainless steel (item 923.21)	3,480,000	Quota filled
Bars of stainless steel (item 923.22)	3,000,000	226,581
Wire rods of stainless steel (item 923.23)	8,800,000	8,057,236
Alloy tool steel (item 923.24)	4,080,000	(see above)

First line of credit for Guyana

A loan which will enable Guyanese buyers to place in the UK £5 million worth of contracts for capital plant and associated equipment has been guaranteed by the Exports Credits Guarantee Department.

The credit has been arranged by Lloyds Bank with Guyana National Co-operative Bank.

To qualify under the terms of the £4 million credit a contract must have a minimum value

of £15,000 and must be approved for financing by 30 April 1978. UK exporters will receive 80 per cent of the contract price from the loan; the remaining 20 per cent is payable from the buyer's own resources.

Exporters requiring further details of this facility should contact either Mr P. J. A. Pace of ECGD, tel. 01-606 6699 ext. 7153, or Mr J. C. Burnell of Lloyds Bank, tel. 01-626 1500 ext. 2087.

Further finance for Hong Kong mass transit railway

An additional £40 million to the £80 million which Kleinwort Benson Limited signed in May with the Hong Kong Mass Transit Railway Corporation has been guaranteed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department. This additional £40 million has been made available because of the success of British companies in securing electrical and mechanical contracts worth £97 million. The finance for the credit was arranged by Kleinwort Benson Limited acting on behalf of consortium of London Clearing and Scottish Banks.

To qualify under the terms of the line of credit a contract must have a minimum value of £2 million and be placed by 31 December 1978.

Exporters requiring further details of this facility should contact either Mr J. P. Smith of ECGD, tel. 01-606 6699 ext. 339, or Mr M. Collier of Kleinwort, Benson, tel. 01-623 8000.

Korean trade developments with Britain

Yong Shik Kim, ambassador of the Republic of Korea, will speak at an open meeting at the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 16 November 1976.

The meeting, on Korean trade developments with Britain, will be chaired by Lord Mais, president of the London chamber. There will be an opportunity to question the ambassador and his staff after the meeting.

Details can be obtained from: Miss Sally Williamson, Asia and Pacific Section, International Division, London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AB, tel. 01-248 4444.

Greater speed needed on the international standards scene: BSI annual report

In the foreword to the British Standards Institution's annual report, Baroness Seear, president of BSI stressed the contribution which standards can make to Britain's export-based economic recovery. 'BSI's continuing leadership in international and regional standards work will make a significant contribution. The harmonisation of standards and acceptance procedures and the resulting elimination of technical barriers should help to ensure that British goods are acceptable overseas both in design and quality.'

But in both European and international standards work the need for greater speed in producing standards is urged by Mr G. B. R. Feilden, director general of BSI, in his review of the year. 'An urgent task for Europe,' he says, 'remains the production of technical specifications required for the EEC harmonisation programme.'

The relationship between the two European standards bodies, CEN and CENELEC, and the commission have been strengthened during the year by the move of the CEN central secretariat to share headquarters facilities with CENELEC in Brussels.

On the international scene also there is need for swifter progress and greater implementation of international standards, Mr Feilden's report goes on. The speedy production of international agreements suitable for national use was crucial to the success of the international standards movement. Conversely, reliable feedback on national implementation was essential if their effectiveness is to be properly assessed. In the UK it was now BSI's declared intention that all draft international standards approved by the UK should be adopted without change, unless there were overriding objections to this. 'With the scarce resources at our disposal,' Mr Feilden says, 'we cannot afford to do the job twice.'

Applications for temporary exemption from import duty

The Department of Trade is considering applications for the temporary exemption from import duty of the materials listed below on the grounds that these materials are not made in this country or the supply available is not substantial having regard to the existing United Kingdom demand.

Representations are invited from manufacturers in this country who consider they are, or will be within a reasonable period, in a position to supply a substantial proportion of the United Kingdom demand for these materials, or who are interested in their future production.

Temporary exemptions come into effect on the operative date of the legislation authorising this and will remain operative until 30 June 1978 or for such shorter period as may be justified.

Interested parties who wish to make representations should address them to General Division, Department of Trade, Kingsgate House, 66/74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, preferably through a Trade Association, giving the respective reference shown in the table at the foot of the page and stating whether their names may be passed to the applicants for temporary exemption.

Representations should be received by 19 November.

Tariff heading	Proposed definition for tariff purposes	Applied for as	Exemption required until	Reference
07.04	Sweet red peppers	As in previous column	30 June 1978	G/T 16073
29.02	Ethylbenzyl chloride, mixed isomers	Ethyl benzyl chloride	30 June 1978	G/T 15743
29.35	5-Ethyl-5,8-dihydro-8-oxo-1,3,dioxolo-[g]cinnoline-7-carbonitrile	1-ethyl-4-(1H)-oxo(1,3)dioxolo(4,5,g)cinnoline-3-carbonitrile	30 June 1978	G/T 15952

Disclosure of information about imports

Consideration is being given under section 3 of the Finance Act 1967 to the disclosure of information relating to the import of the following goods:

1976 SITC(R)		Code no
715.1	Reaming machines:	
	Automatic machines, numerically controlled:	
	New	8445 1190
	Other:	
	New	8445 1322
	Boring machines:	
	Automatic machines, numerically controlled:	
	New	8445 2374
	Other boring machines:	
	Horizontal	8445 2837
	Other (including all fine borers)	8445 2958

The government is consulting the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, 6-14 Dean Farrar Street, London SW1H 0DX on this proposal and the association will take into account any views received from importers by 26 November 1976.

Romanian compensation claims

The Foreign Compensation (Romania) Order 1976 (SI 1976 no 1154) enables the Foreign Compensation Commission to receive and determine claims in respect of bonds, loans or obligations issued or guaranteed before 15 September 1947 by the Romanian government or by any other public authority in Romania which were beneficially owned by a United Kingdom national on 12 January 1976 and claims from persons who were United Kingdom nationals on 12 January 1976 in respect of certain debts and bank balances.

Those who wish to apply for compensation should write for application forms to the Secretary, Foreign Compensation Commission, Alexandra House, Kingsway, London WC2B 6TT, giving brief particulars of their claims.

An application shall not be entertained unless it has reached the Foreign Compensation Commission on or before 1 August 1977.

Notices to importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH. Telephone inquiries should be addressed to the number at the end of the notice.

1582: arrangements for imports to UK of jute goods, 1 Jan 1976-31 Dec 1979

This notice deals with jute goods within tariff headings 57.06 (yarn), 57.10 (fabric) and 62.03 (sacks and bags) ie EEC categories 1 to 7 as defined in annex A to this notice, from all sources.

The importation into the UK of all jute fabric within tariff heading 57.10 originating in the state trading area or coming from Southern Rhodesia, is restricted. When originating in all other sources outside the EEC and Efta countries however, only jute fabric exceeding 45cms in width is restricted. No goods coming from Southern Rhodesia may be imported into the UK.

Imports from the EEC

Jute goods originating in and consigned from the EEC may be imported under the Open General Import Licence.

Imports from Efta countries

Jute goods originating in and consigned from Efta countries are subject to import surveillance and individual import licences are required; these are issued freely without restriction as to quantity, but subject to the provision of certain information. The general arrangements for UK import surveillance licensing are set out in notices to importers 1484 and 1502. Applications for surveillance licences should be made on Form ILB/A to Import Licensing Branch at the address shown above.

Goods on open individual licence

Common sacking fabrics, plain weave fabrics, heavy bags of common sacking fabrics and wool packs as defined in annex B may be imported under open individual licence (ie without limitation as to quantity/value) from countries other than EEC member states, Efta countries and Southern Rhodesia. Importers requiring open individual licences should apply on Form ILB/A to Import Licensing Branch. A separate application is required for each type of goods. Page 1 of the form should be completed, page 2 left blank and on pages 3 and 5 the applicant's name and address and the type of goods (as defined in annex B) should be inserted. An undertaking in the form set out at annex C must be signed and should accompany each application. Open Individual Licences will be valid for use until 31 December 1979, and importers who already have Open Individual Licences should return them at the end of the year to Import Licensing Branch for extension to that date.

Goods on quota

UK quota arrangements will continue for woven fabrics, sacks and bags and wool packs as defined in annex D which originate in countries other than EEC member states, Efta countries, the state trading area and Southern Rhodesia.

The annual quota is 550 tonnes. The quota is allocated each year to traders who utilised their allocations in the previous year. Should any portion of the quota subsequently become available a further notice to importers will be published.

Applications for licences for the importation into the UK of goods subject to quota should be made on form ILB/A and sent to Import Licensing Branch. Page 1 of the form should be completed. On page 2 the quantity should be stated in tonnes and the class of goods (the precise specification in terms of widths of cloth, weight per square metre or per pack, type of weave and thread count per decimetre and construction of wool pack should be stated). On pages 3 and 5 the applicant's name and address and the countries of consignment and origin should be entered, but the rest left blank. Applications for licences will not be considered unless accompanied by evidence of purchase or placing of contract, together with a covering letter confirming that the purchase or contracts cover only goods within the definitions given on the application form.

In the event of temporary shortages arising from unforeseen circumstances applications to import goods outside the quota will be considered on an ad hoc basis. Licences will only be issued in cases where there is evidence that an immediate need exists for the goods in question in order to prevent serious business disruption to users of such jute goods, and that such goods are not available from any UK source, including manufacturers.

Imports from India and Bangladesh

The community has negotiated and initialled agreements with India and Bangladesh on trade in jute products for each of the calendar years 1976, 1977, 1978 and 1979. The agreements provide for voluntary restraint to keep exports to the community of jute products at agreed levels. Pending announcement of community legislation to conclude the agreements their provisions are being operated *de facto* as set out in the following paragraphs. Should the subsequent legislation result in any change in the provisions outlined here however a further notice to importers will be issued. As provided for in the new agreements, exports of jute fabrics wider than 150cms (categories 4, 5 and 7 defined in annex A) intended for domestic consumption in the community will be limited by India and Bangladesh to agreed restraint ceilings. The categories covered, and restraint ceilings for imports to the UK for the calendar years 1976-1979 are as follows:

	Quantity (tonnes)			
	1976	1977	1978	1979
India				
categories 4 and 5	1,450	1,600	1,800	1,990
category 7	350	390	430	480
Bangladesh				
categories 4 and 5	840	960	1,092	1,237
category 7	200	226	256	288

The new agreements also set out an annual indicative ceiling for imports to the UK of jute yarn (category 6 as defined in annex A). The ceilings for imports of jute yarn from India and Bangladesh are as follows:
India 240 tonnes; Bangladesh 2,600 tonnes.

The Indian Jute Commissioner in Calcutta and the Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation in Dacca will administer the ceilings by issuing export certificates in the form set out in annex E. Separate export certificates will be needed for each consignment of cloth or yarn. Importers placing orders in India and Bangladesh for goods in categories 4, 5, 6 or 7 should therefore first obtain written confirmation from the exporter that the order can be met within the appropriate UK ceiling and that he will be able to obtain the export certificate necessary for shipment.

A copy of the export certificate, countersigned by the Indian or Bangladeshi customs when the goods are loaded on to the vessel will be sent by the exporter to the UK importer when the goods have been shipped, and a further copy will accompany the shipping documents. Importers should apply for a UK import licence as soon as they receive their copy of the export certificate from the Indian or Bangladeshi exporter. Applications for licences should be made on form ILB/A and sent to Import Licensing Branch. Page 1 of the form should be completed. On page 2 the quantities should be stated in tonnes. The applicant's name and address and the country of consignment and origin should be entered on pages 3 and 5, but the remainder left blank. All applications should quote the number of the Indian or Bangladeshi export certificate covering the shipment and should be accompanied by a copy of the export certificate. Import Licensing Branch will issue an import licence against such applications as soon as they receive the original of the export certificate from the Indian Jute Commissioner or Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation. As regards imports from India and Bangladesh of jute goods within categories 1, 2 and 3, the arrangements set out in previous paragraphs will apply.

Imports from other sources

Applications on form ILB/A will be considered individually for imports of jute fabrics wider than 150cms originating in countries other than the EEC, Efta, India, Bangladesh, the state trading area and Southern Rhodesia. Importers should not finalise contracts to purchase unless they are assured of obtaining an import licence. Jute yarn originating in and consigned to the UK from countries other than the EEC, India, Bangladesh and Southern Rhodesia may be imported without restriction as to quantity but surveillance import licences will still be required. Applications for such licences should be made on Form ILB/A and sent to Import Licensing Branch.

Imports for re-export

The arrangements set out in notice to importers 1441 will continue to apply, and traders should make applications on form ILB/A to Chemicals and Textiles Division in Manchester, whose address is given at the end of this Notice.

Re-export licences for fabrics wider than 150cm and jute yarn from India and Bangladesh will continue to be granted freely outside the ceilings against undertakings to re-export the goods outside the EEC. When ordering from India or Bangladesh goods within categories 4, 5, 6 or 7 for which a re-export licence has been issued, importers should inform the exporter of the re-export licence number and send him a photocopy of the licence. Importers should explain to their Indian or Bangladeshi exporter that the Indian Jute Commissioner or Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation need not count the order against the UK ceiling, and advise the exporter to make this clear and to quote the re-export licence number when registering the order with the relevant authorities.

Where goods in categories 4, 5, 6 or 7 which have been imported against the UK ceiling under an Indian or Bangladeshi export certificate and a UK import licence are subsequently re-exported outside the EEC, Import Licensing Branch will, on production of satisfactory evidence of such re-export, agree to issue replacement licences for an equivalent quantity of goods of the same category from the same country; traders should apply, as above, to Chemicals and Textiles Division in Manchester. When ordering goods in India or Bangladesh for which a replacement licence has been issued, importers should advise the Indian or Bangladeshi exporter as set out above, that a replacement licence has been issued, giving the same details as required for re-export licences.

Definition of sources

The EEC comprises Belgium, Denmark, France, The Federal Republic of Germany and Berlin (West), the Republic of Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the UK.

The Efta countries are Austria, Finland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland.

The state trading area comprises Albania, Bulgaria, the People's Republic of China, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic and Berlin (East), Hungary, Democratic Kampuchea, Laos, the People's Republic of Mongolia, North Korea, Poland, Romania, USSR and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Inquiries

General: Department of Industry, Chemicals and Textiles Division, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU, tel. 01-211 6207.

Re-export: Department of Industry, Chemicals and Textiles Division, Britannic Building, Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2FL, tel. 061-832 5541.

Licensing: Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH, tel. 01-603 4644 ext. 276.

Annex A: EEC JUTE CATEGORIES

Category 1: Jute fabrics weighing more than 500g per m^2 and of a width of not more than 150cms, and jute bags of fabric weighing more than 500g per m^2.
Category 2: Jute fabrics weighing not less than 310g per m^2 but not more than 500g per m^2 and of a width of not more than 150cms, and jute bags of fabric weighing not less than 310g per m^2 but not more than 500g per m^2.
Category 3: Jute fabrics weighing less than 310g per m^2 and of a width of not more than 150cms, and jute bags of fabric weighing less than 310g per m^2.
Category 4: Jute fabrics of a width of more than 150cms, but not more than 230cms, irrespective of their weight per square metre, other than those referred to in category 7.
Category 5: Jute fabric of a width more than 230cms, irrespective of their weight per square metre, other than those referred to in category 7.
Category 6: Jute yarn.
Category 7: Jute fabrics (with no patent selvedges at any interval throughout the width of the cloth) bleached, dyed or printed, either wholly or in part, of a width of more than 150cms, irrespective of their weight per square metre.

Annex B: GOODS ON OPEN INDIVIDUAL LICENCE, IF ORIGINATING IN COUNTRIES OTHER THAN EEC MEMBER STATES, EFTA COUNTRIES AND SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

1 Common sacking fabrics being fabrics made wholly of jute, not more than 150cms wide weighing not less than 543g per m^2 (16oz per sq yd) and having either a warp of pairs of single yarns not exceeding 51 pairs to the decimetre (13 pairs to the inch) and a weft of single yarns not exceeding 35 to the decimetre (9 to the inch) or a warp of single yarns not exceeding 57 to the decimetre (13 to the inch) and a weft of pairs of single yarns not exceeding 35 pairs to the decimetre (9 pairs to the inch), but not single threads both warp and weft.
2 Plain weave jute fabrics, not more than 150cms in width, weighing not less than 220g per m^2 (6.5 oz per sq yd) and not more than 314g per m^2 (9.25oz per sq yd), having not more than 51 single yarns per decimetre (13 per inch) in the warp and not more than 47 single yarns per decimetre (12 per inch) in the weft.
3 Heavy bags of common sacking being bags of fabrics made wholly of jute, weighing not less than 543g per m^2 (16oz per sq yd) and having either a warp of pairs of single yarns not exceeding 57 pairs to the decimetre (13 pairs to the inch) and a weft of single yarns not exceeding 35 to the decimetre (9 to the inch) or a warp of single yarns not exceeding 57 to the decimetre (13 to the inch) and a weft of pairs of single yarns not exceeding 35 pairs to the decimetre (9 pairs to the inch), but not single threads both warp and weft; and woolpacks being receptacles consisting of four side panels and a bottom panel assembled by sewing and a top panel secured along one edge only, weighing not less than 3.63kg (8lb) and not more than 5.22kg (11.5lb) per pack, made of fabric wholly of jute having a warp of pairs of single yarns not exceeding 35 pairs to the decimetre (9 pairs to the inch) and a weft of single yarns not exceeding 35 to the decimetre (9 to the inch) or a warp of single yarns not exceeding 35 to the decimetre (9 to the inch) and a weft of pairs of single yarns not exceeding 35 pairs to the decimetre (9 pairs to the inch).

Annex C: IMPORTS OF JUTE

UNDERTAKING BY IMPORTER

If an open individual licence is granted in respect of my/our application reference .....
to import (please give full description of goods).

I/We undertake to supply to the Department of Trade such information as may be requested about imports under the licence.

Signature .....

Status .....
(Owner, partner, company director, company secretary)

Date .....

Name and address of applicant

.....

.....

.....

Annex D: GOODS ON QUOTA IF ORIGINATING IN COUNTRIES OTHER THAN EEC MEMBER STATES, EFTA COUNTRIES, THE STATE TRADING AREA AND SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

1 Woven fabrics of jute falling within tariff heading 57.10 of any weight or weave exceeding 45cms in width up to and including 150cms in width other than common sacking and plain weave fabrics not more than 150cms in width as defined in paragraphs 1 and 2 of annex B.
2 New sacks and bags and woolpacks of jute falling within tariff heading 62.03 other than heavy bags and woolpacks as defined in paragraph 3 of annex B.

Annex E: EXPORT CERTIFICATE FOR GOODS WITHIN CATEGORIES 4, 5, 6 and 7 COMING FROM INDIA AND BANGLADESH.

1 The destination (relevant member state).
2 The serial number.
3 The name and address of the importer.
4 The name and address of the exporter.
5 The net weight (in kilogrammes or metric tons) and the value.
6 The category and the classification of the products.
7 The certification delivered by the authorities and stating the ceiling under which the products fall.

Consolidated list of goods subject to security export control: amendment 1

The attention of manufacturers and exporters is drawn to the following amendment in the schedule of goods which appeared in *Trade and Industry*, 30 April 1976. Reprints of that schedule are available from CRE4/1d, Department of Trade, Room 102, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AG (tel. 01-212 6670/6792).

Atomic energy list

AE8 In sub-item (b) line 2: *for* thickness and exceeding *read* thickness not exceeding

AE24 should read AE27

Delete comma after 'bellows'

Industrial list

1355 In sub-items:
(b) (2) *Delete* 'polishing'
(b) (5) after 'masks' *for* 'of' *read* 'or'

1519 *Change* sub-item (d) as follows:
Components, accessories, and sub-assemblies specially designed for the above equipment, and test equipment specially designed for the equipment covered by sub-item (b).

1537 Sub-item (h):
For Item 1568 *read* Item 1586

1544 Explanatory Note 2 after sub-item (f):
For high *read* light

1555 *Add* the following after sub-item (a):
Night vision viewing equipment containing S-1 image intensifier/convertor tubes when they do not contain fibre optics, micro-channel structures or integral power supplies, in shipments of less than 20 units for civil applications only.

1558 Sub-item (b) (ii) (1):
For 1.2MHz *read* 1.2mW
Sub-items (b) (ii) (1) and (2) should be indented.

Before 1565 *Add* heading:
Group G. Scientific Instruments and Apparatus, Servomechanisms and Photographic Equipment.

1587 Sub-item (b) (1) *for* 169°C *read* 160°C

Over 600 companies are already taking part in Export Year. But there is still plenty of time to join them. Write to or phone the Export Year Office, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1 0ET. Tel. 01-215 5180/3393/5773.

Overseas trade country data

Australia

Draft report on tyres released. The Industries Assistance Commission has released a draft of its report on tyres in order that interested parties may have an opportunity to examine and comment on it within the commission's public inquiry system before the report is finally settled.

In order to receive submissions on the draft, the commission will hold a further public hearing at The Public Inquiry Room, Industries Assistance Commission, King's Avenue, Canberra, Australia, commencing at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 23 November 1976.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref. CRE 1509/74.

Industries Assistance Commission reference on brassieres. A reference has been sent to the Industries Assistance Commission asking for a report on the question whether assistance should be accorded the production in Australia of brassieres falling within item 61.09.2 of the customs tariff.

United Kingdom firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence at the public hearing should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600 Australia, without delay. Evidence may be submitted either through the accredited agent of the firm or trade association concerned or through the Australian-British Trade Association, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1 (01-799 7447). The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref. CRE 1818/76.

Industries Assistance Commission reference on certain paper and paperboard. A reference has been sent to the Industries Assistance Commission asking for a report on the question whether the importation of paper and paperboard (having a fob price of not less than $350 per tonne, not being machine glazed paper) of a kind falling within sub-paragraph 48.01.921 of schedule 1 to the Customs Tariff Act 1966 as proposed to be altered, should, pending a report by the commission, be subject to tariff quotas after 31 May 1977, and if so, at what level and for what period should quotas and tariff rates apply.

The commission was also asked whether assistance should be accorded the production in Australia of paper and paperboard (having a fob price of not less than $350 per tonne, not being machine glazed paper) of a kind falling within sub-paragraph 48.10.921 and paper and paperboard of a kind falling within paragraph 48.07.62 (other than pressure sensitive adhesive paper) or 48.07.73, and if so found, what should be the nature and extent of such assistance.

UK firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence at the public hearing should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia, without delay. Evidence may be submitted either through the accredited agent of the firm or trade association concerned or through the Australian-British Trade Association, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1 (01-799 7447). The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

Inquiries: 01-215 5319. Ref. CRE 1744/76.

Chile

Special customs duty exemptions. Chilean Ministry of Finance decree 769, published on 8 October 1976, establishes two classes of products which, under certain conditions, can be imported without paying customs duties.

I – Scientific instruments intended for measuring and investigating occupational dangers.

II – Blood dialising and oxygenating equipment, articles and apparatus within heading 90.19, and also the necessary spare parts and apparatus for their application and maintenance.

In general, only those goods which the Servicio Nacional de Salud and the customs authority qualify as being within the scope of the two classes will enjoy the customs liberalisation.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Drugs, pharmaceutical and medicinal/veterinary products. Chilean Ministry of Finance decree 769, published on 8 October 1976, eliminates Chilean additional notes 1, 2 and 3 to section VI of the customs tariff ('Products of the Chemical and Allied industries') and replaces them with a single additional note 1 which states that:

Drugs or medicaments and their intermixtures, unspecified chemical products qualified as drugs or medicaments, and those pharmaceutical products employed in medicine or veterinary science, prepared or packed for retail sale, classified within this section, shall be subject to an *ad valorem* duty of 15 per cent instead of the rate shown against the individual heading/sub-heading.

For the purposes of the application of this note it should be understood by the terms 'drugs' or 'medicaments', every natural or synthetic substance which exerts a physiological action over the organism and which is used in the treatment of illnesses or alleviating suffering.

The determination of which products shall be classified as drugs or medicaments shall be made by the Chilean customs acting jointly with the Servicio Nacional de Salud.

This same decree also establishes the following additional note 1 to chapter 39 of the customs tariff:

Unspecified chemical products within chapter 39, qualified as 'drugs' or 'medicaments', shall be subject to an *ad valorem* duty of 15 per cent instead of the rate shown against the individual heading/sub-heading.

For the purposes of the application of this note, it should be understood by the term 'drugs' or 'medicaments', all substances which comply with the definitions as laid down in the above additional note to section VI.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Finland

Tractor safety regulations. The Finnish authorities have announced new safety requirements for tractors which are due to come into effect on 1 January 1977. The new requirements concern safety cabs, noise levels, mechanical vibration and other matters.

Representations to the Finnish government have been made by the importers concerned requesting some modification of the regulations and a postponement for six months of the date of implementation. No response has so far been received from the Finnish government.

Further details will be published when they become available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Export (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension.

The Gambia

Customs tariff. Customs tariff amendment 27 published in the Gambia *Gazette* of 1 July 1976 amends with effect from that date the first schedule to the Customs Tariff (Import Duties) as follows:

Tariff no	Tariff description	Rates of duty
10.06	Rice	The 100 lb – D2.35
17.01	Beet sugar and cane sugar, solid	The 100 lb – D2.35
22.03	Beer (made from malt) including ale, stout and porter	D3.50 per gallon
24.02	Manufactured tobacco, tobacco extracts and essences:	
	A. Cigars, cheroots and cigarettes not exceeding 3 lb weight the thousand	The hundred D1.50
	B. Other cigars, cheroots and cigarettes	D5 per lb
	C. Other	D4.50 per lb
27.09/10	Petroleum oils and oils obtained from bituminous minerals; preparations not elsewhere specified or included, containing not less than 70 per cent by weight of petroleum oils or of oils obtained from bituminous minerals, these oils being the basic constituents of the preparation	
	B. Other	
	(1) Illuminating, including kerosene and other refined petroleum burning oils	30b per gallon
	(2) Motor spirit, including aviation spirit, aviation turbine fuel	80b per gallon
	(3) Fuel oil, nes (eg diesel oil, gas oil) for internal combustion engines	50b per gallon

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 437.

Italy

Excise taxes for petroleum and methane gas products. The *Gazzetta Ufficiale*, 9 October 1976, published decree-law 691, dated 8 October 1976, modifying the fiscal regime and excise taxes on certain petroleum and methane gas products. The new rates of excise tax are as follows:

Changes in the basic rates for petroleum products
1 petroleum spirit: increased from L29,136 to L41,212 per 100kg
2 special petroleum spirit, other than white spirit: increased from L29,136 to L41,212 per 100kg
3 medium oil (other than lamp oil): increased from L29,136 to L41,212 per 100kg
4 liquified petroleum gas for the propulsion of vehicles: increased from L24,064 to L35,126 per 100kg

Changes in the reduced rate concessions for certain petroleum products
1 lamp oil, intended for use in domestic heating: increased from L350 to L700 per 100kg
2 gas oils to be used directly as fuels: reduced from L5,976 to L3,000 per 100kg
3 gas oils for immediate use as fuel for heating premises, for producing hot water for domestic use, for sanitary systems, for kitchens, laundries and small waste disposal plants, for bread-baking ovens and for kilns used for artisan purposes: increased from L350 to L700 per 100kg
4 'jet fuel JP4' for use in powering military jet aircraft: increased from L2,913.60 to L4,121.20 per 100kg

Changes in the rate for methane gas, for the propulsion of vehicles
Methane gas, pure or mixed with other gases, for the propulsion of motor vehicles: increased from L69.99 to L107.13 per m^3

The above mentioned items, coming from refineries, customs warehouses, or imported, having paid tax at the old rate, and held, on 9 October 1976, in quantities of more than 2,000kg, by stockists of mineral oil for commercial use, will be liable for excise tax at the new rates. Dealers must declare the quantities of stocks held by them, or in transit to them, to the area office for excise tax administration, within 30 days of the publication of law 691. By the same date, those parties making declarations must pay to the area treasury office the difference in tax on the goods in store. Penalties are provided for failure to make the relevant returns, of for making false declarations.

Copies of the decree-law are available, in Italian. An English translation is being prepared and will be available at a later date.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 466/467/288.

Ivory Coast

Tariff changes. With effect from 21 September 1976, the following changes were introduced under government order 76.724 of 15 September:

No 39.02.22. PVC containing plasticising agent (*plastifiant*) 7%
The minimum rates of fiscal duty for certain articles in groups 60.03, 60.04, 60.05, is now 1,300 CFA per kilo for:
60.03.21; 60.04.19, 29, 49, 59, 99; 60.05.21, 39, 41, 42, 43, 59, 69, 71, 72, 73, 89, 99 and 1,200 CFA per kilo for:
60.03.29; 60.04.01, 09, 11, 21, 41, 51, 91; 60.05.31, 51, 61, 81, 91
The minimum rates per pair for all articles in groups 64.01 and 64.02 is now 200 CFA and in 64.05 per article 100 CFA
Articles in group 73.03.00 have a nominal fiscal duty rate of 5%, sub groups 73.13.31 and 91 10% and 73.15.70 10% but these duties are suspended.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757, ext. 472/462/471/473.

Japan

Pharmaceutical testing. The Japanese Pharmaceutical Affairs Bureau issued notification 970 of 1 October which sets out new requirements concerning submission of data by domestic and foreign companies on animal tests. The new requirements are a relaxation of existing regulations.

An unofficial translation of the notification is available on request from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 420.

Libya

Import restrictions. It has been announced that the following items:

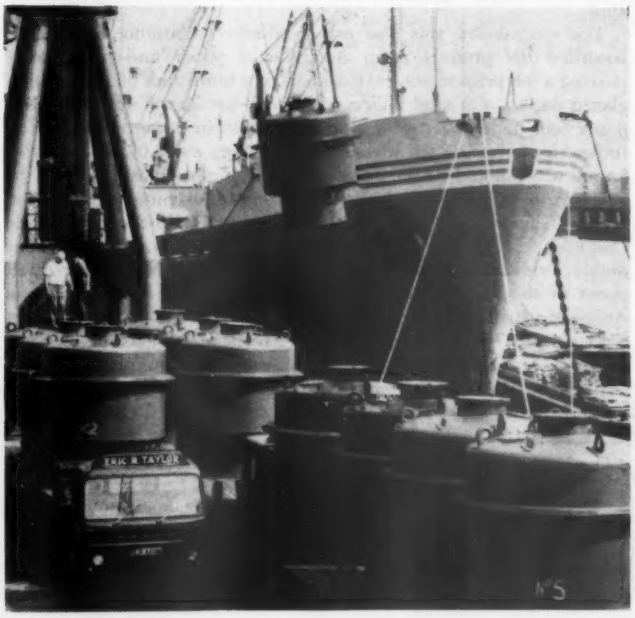
Bare copper conductors; distribution boards of all types; copper cables, bared insulated; electrical counters of all types; low and high tension insulators; circuit breakers of all types; turbines and generators; transformers with capacity more than 5 hp; electrical towers, steel, cement and wooden columns; control apparatus and switch gear; wires and cables of all types for electrical machinery and apparatus;

placed on import licensing in November 1975, may now only be imported by:
1 The Public Electric Works Company PO Box 8539 Tripoli; or,
2 The General Wire and Electrical Products Company, PO Box 1177 Benghazi.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 461.

Aga lightbuoys for Indonesia

Part of an order for 18 Aga acetylene gas lightbuoys, valued at over £150,000, being loaded at London docks for shipment to Indonesia. The Aga steel buoy bodies were constructed for Aga Navigation Aids Ltd, Brentford, by R. Mitchell and Co (Engineers) Ltd, Silvertown.



Netherlands

Cocoa and chocolate. Netherlands Marketing Board for Agricultural Products Order 1974, Cocoa and Chocolate Products, replaces the Cocoa and Chocolate Decree (Commodity Law) repealed by decree of 16 June 1976 (*Staatsblad* 393) (see *Trade and Industry*, 20 August 1976, page 510).

An English translation of this order is now available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 288/466/467.

Cheese substitutes. A decree dated 10 June 1976 (*Staatsblad* 399), published on 29 July 1976, modifies decree of 3 March 1976 (*Staatsblad* 145) granting general permission to cheese preparers to use the term 'Feta kaas' for a product resembling cheese, for a period of five years.

Copies of these decrees (in Dutch) are available. An English translation should be available in about a month's time.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 288/466/467.

Nigeria

Customs tariff change. Legal notice 72 of 1976, published in the Federal Republic of Nigeria *Official Gazette* of 1 October 1976, amends with effect from that date the first schedule to the customs tariff (consolidation) decree 1973. The following tariff numbers are affected:

48.01 ; 48.15 ; 56.05 ; 57.12 ; 59.05 ; 64.01 ; 64.02 ; 64.03 ; 64.04 ; 70.07 ; 70.08 ; 85.04A

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 473/472/471/462.

Norway

Tax amendments. The Norwegian authorities have amended the rates of tax on alcoholic beverages and tobacco products. Handouts giving details of the revised rates are available from OTAR 01-248 5757, ext 458/461.

South Africa

Tariff application. Customs tariff application list 35/76, published in the South African *Government Gazette* 29 October 1976 contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on stretch or bulked yarn classifiable under tariff subheading 51.01. 90.40.

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE 01-215 5274.

Spain

Capital goods – additions, extensions and amended descriptions. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 3 August 1976, announced the following additions, extensions of validity, deletions and modifications to the capital goods list of the Spanish customs tariff, imported at a concessional rate of 5 per cent import duty (temporarily raised to 6 per cent for six months from 30 August 1976), subject to the importer making application to the Spanish Ministry of Commerce:

Tariff no	Description	Valid until
Additions		
84.33.A.4	Machinery for cutting and stacking cellulosic pulp, with a working width of more than 4m	2 August 1978
84.44.A.3	Machines for hot-rolling of variable section (parabolic) spring leaves, by means of copying a template while maintaining a constant width, whether or not incorporating hydraulics	2 August 1978
84.45.C.5	Automatic multiple saw-bladed milling machines for the simultaneous radial slotting of several combs for rotary electric shavers	2 August 1978
84.45.C.6	Special machines for abrasion grinding of circular combs for rotary electric shavers; surface grinders for the cutting head, with automatic thickness measurement and regulation; grinders for cutting two plane faces on the edge of the comb or the circular groove of the cutting face; automatic machines for finishing the blade to fit the comb; automatic modular machines for lapping the internal channel	2 August 1978
84.45.C.9	Presses with three or more stations for hot-forging by means of a stamp or punch and die	2 August 1978
84.45.C.9	Hydraulic presses for cold-stamping with rising stroke and an upper die-holder the inclination of which can be varied during the pressing operation	2 August 1978
84.45.C.10	Machines for straightening variable-section (parabolic) spring leaves by means of a floating roller, with or without their hydraulic pressure systems	2 August 1978
84.45.C.13	Benches for tube-drawing by means of a hydraulic cylinder operating directly on a clamp-holder slide, whether or not including a special hydraulic system having a pump with more than 20 radial pistons	2 August 1978
84.59.K	Automatic machines for the insertion, by riveting of embellishers in the circular combs of rotary electric shavers	2 August 1978
84.59.K	Automatic machines for drilling and capping furnace tap holes	2 August 1978
84.59.K 84.10.F.2 84.17.G 84.21.A.3 85.19.E	Machinery for continuous automatic plating of mirror glass, consisting of sections for washing, activation, plating and painting, varnish drying and final washing and drying	2 August 1978
84.59.K 85.01.B.2 90.28.C.7	Machines for the mechanical and thermal treatment of wires, cables or round iron, using the Joule effect, whether or not with transformer, regulation cooling and control equipment but excluding unreeling and re-reeling spools	2 August 1978
85.11.B	Magnetically-controlled machines for arc or flash welding	2 August 1978
90.28.C.7	Automatic benches, programmed by means of electronic memories, for electrical testing of blocks of contact springs for telephone selectors, telephone exchange cables, relays or other electrical equipment	2 August 1978
Extensions		
84.09	Self-propelled tamping machines, fitted with rollers, pistons or sheep's foot tampers	15 July 1978
84.14.F	Automatic continuous multi-channel ovens for baking unstacked ceramic tiles and slabs, with advance by means of steatite rollers or reciprocating drive, whether or not including loading and unloading equipment	7 August 1978
84.16.A	Tobacco vein rollers	15 July 1978
84.17.G	Automatic continuous driers for fast drying (under 60 minutes) of ceramic tiles or slabs placed unstacked on articulated trays on a chain transporter	21 August 1978
84.19.D	Presses for packing and wrapping tobacco leaf or vein	15 July 1978
84.22.G.4	Intermediate transporters between ceramic tile or slab forming presses and continuous driers, with automatic pick-up, burring and cropping and a synchronous pusher system	15 July 1978
84.22.I	Automatic machines for loading or unloading ceramic tiles or slabs (unstacked) on refractory supports within containers	15 July 1978
84.22.I	Machinery for grouping small boxes or packs or cartons with small boxes	15 July 1978
84.22.I	Self-propelled wheeled fork-lift trucks specially designed for working mine galleries	15 July 1978
84.30	Machines for the preparation of fish: head-removing machines, gutting machines or combined head-removing and gutting machines; filleting machines or combined head-removing and filleting machines; multi-cutter machines for cutting slices, strips or steaks; cod-cutting machines; skinning machines; boning machines; machines for cutting and packaging portions and for grading fish and shellfish by size	30 July 1978
84.33.L	Machinery for making self-adhesive labels, with provision for unreeling of the strip, colour printing, drying and cutting out by means of a reciprocating device operating at more than 8,000 strokes or by a rotary device, and separate re-reeling of labels and trimmings	15 July 1978
84.44.A.2	Pilger mills for cold-rolling tubes, whether or not with reduction gear, hydraulic and lubrication systems and electrical controls, but without motors	17 March 1978
84.45.C.1.d	Automatic vertical lathes, other than numerically-controlled	19 August 1978
84.45.C.5	Automatic milling cutters specially designed for grooving and relieving spiral drill bits	15 July 1978
84.45.C.11	Double-acting stamp forging hammers, of a weight exceeding 50,000kg	10 June 1978

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

Tariff no	Description	Valid until
84.45.C.16	Automatic machines for truing straight or cranked axles by means of rapid hammering, controlled by an electronic eccentricity sensing and control system	15 July 1978
84.56.E	Special automatic hydraulic presses for the production of ceramic tiles or slabs, whether or not with hydraulic systems and electronic controls	15 July 1978
84.59.K	Self-propelled machines for cutting joints in concrete or agglomerate paving	15 July 1978
84.59.K	Vertical braiding machines for manufacturing ropes of eight or more strands and of a circumference of 250mm or more, including a tensioning drum and provision for folding; combined stranding and winding machines for making ropes or wicks of a diameter of more than 30mm, capable of handling spools more than 1m in length and 750mm in diameter	15 July 1978
84.59.K	Automatic machines for assembling spring blocks for telephone relays	15 July 1978
84.59.K	Automatic machines for adjusting and checking the spacing between spring contacts in telephone relays	15 July 1978
84.59.K	Automatic machines for adjusting and checking clearances in telephone relays	15 July 1978
85.11.A.2c	Automatic continuous multi-channel ovens for baking ceramic tiles or slabs, with a cycle time of less than 40 hours	15 July 1978
90.28.C.7	Apparatus for non-destructive testing of metal articles by induced currents or resistance strain-gauging	15 July 1978
Extensions with amended descriptions		
84.45.C.1	Numerically-controlled lathes, other than vertical and front-operated lathes of less than 6,500kg	
84.45.C.1.a.1	Automatic horizontal lathes with multi-spindle tool-holder head	
From the start of the new concession the above descriptions are amended as follows:		
84.45.C.1.a	Numerically-controlled automatic lathes, exclusively bar-operating (any weight) and plate-operating or both modes (weighing between 6,500 and 11,000kg); for the purpose of determination of weight, the numerical-controlled and independent hydraulic systems are excluded	19 August 1978
84.45.C.1.a.1	Automatic horizontal lathes with two or more heads and multi-spindle models with single head	19 August 1978
Extension with amended description and tariff headings		
84.45.C.1.a.2	[Previous entry:] Horizontal automatic lathes with single spindle and revolving turret (weighing more than 3,000kg and other single-spindle horizontal automatic lathes (weighing more than 3,800kg);	
84.45.C.1.a.2	[New subdivided entry:] Single-spindle automatic horizontal lathes (except copying lathes), weighing more than 3,500kg	19 August 1978
84.45.C.1.a	Automatic horizontal copying lathes weighing more than 5,000kg	19 August 1978
Amended description		
84.33.L	Automatic folding and glueing machinery for making bag valves from tubular plastic film on reels, having stations for cutting, folding the bag mouths and ends, inserting the valves and glueing or welding	16 March 1978
84.45.C.9	Automatic modular machinery for sequential stamping of rotor and stator plates, with one or more pressing modules and a central transfer and storage facility; unitary machines for stamping of stators of a diameter greater than 1,500mm	17 July 1978
84.45.C.10	Sheetbending rollers with table length over 3,000mm and diameter over 700mm, with hydraulic pressure on the lower and/or upper cylinder, whether or not with electrical or hydraulic drive systems	7 August 1978
84.45.C.14	Automatic machines for producing parts by shaping wires, strips or profiles, using interchangeable heads working by deformation, and by swarf-removal if required, operated by camshafts arranged in a rectangle	2 December 1976
Amended description and tariff heading		
84.35.C3 84.35.C4	[Previous entry:] Dry or wet offset machines for printing in two or more colours on tubular covers or containers without folding	15 April 1977
84.35.C	[New entry:] Dry or wet offset machines for printing in two or more colours on non-flat containers or container covers	15 April 1977
Deletion		
84.45.C8.a	Machinery for cutting straight teeth on bevel gears	

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462/471/472/473.

United States

Lead-based paint. The Consumer Product Safety Commission has extended till 1 April 1977 the consideration for promulgating or withdrawing the consumer product safety rule to determine a safe level of lead in paints and a further notice should be published in the *Federal Register* on that date.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Identity standards and labelling of dietary foods. The *Federal Register*, 19 October 1976, published details by the Food and Drug Administration on the final revised regulations governing the labelling and composition of dietary supplements. Voluntary compliance may begin 19 October 1976 and all products should comply fully from 1 January 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Children's pacifiers. The *Federal Register*, 20 October 1976, published rules proposed by the Consumer Products Safety Commission to ban as a hazardous product any children's pacifier which does not meet the safety standards of construction. Comments (five copies) before 19 November 1976 to Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington DC 20207.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Toxic substances control act. The Toxic Substances Control Act received Presidential assent on 12 October. Further details are available from CRE 01-215 5397.

Respiratory devices. The *Federal Register*, 13 October 1976, published rules proposed by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) for the amendment of standards and regulations concerning gas masks and chemical-cartridge respirators.

Written comments (three copies) should be sent by 12 November 1976 to National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, 5600 Fishers Lane (Park Building 3-32), Rockville MD 20852.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Food additives. The *Federal Register* dated 15 October 1976 published rules providing for the use of *Candida guillier mondii* for the fermentative production of food grade citric acid. Written comments (five copies) should be sent before 15 November 1976 to Food and Drug Administration Room 4-65, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20852.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Bakery products. The Federal Register dated 15 October 1976 published further information on yeast nutrients and calcium salts in bread etc., and on the standard for mono-and diglycerides of fat-forming fatty acids.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Canned fruits and fruit juices. The *Federal Register* dated 15 October 1976 published revised standards of identity for frozen concentrate for lemonade and coloured lemonade.

Failing objections, compliance with the final regulation, including any labelling changes, may begin 14 December 1976 and all products shall fully comply by 1 January 1978.

Written objections (six copies) should be sent before 15 November 1976 to Food and Drug Administration, Room 4-65, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville MD 20852.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Zaire

Fever outbreak. An outbreak of haemorrhagic fever has been officially confirmed in Equateur region (north-western Zaire). Any businessmen considering visiting the area should check with the Department of Health and Social Security, International Relations Division, tel. 01-407 5522 ext. 6711, before leaving, and anyone who has been in the area recently should contact his local health authority.

Overseas trade exhibitions

Potential for profits shown at Iraq fair

From J. A. N. Graham, British ambassador, Baghdad

Thirty-four British companies took part in the British Overseas Trade Board-sponsored pavilion at the Baghdad International Fair which took place from 1 to 21 October. This was the first British joint exhibit to be mounted since the start of Iraq's oil-fed boom in 1973, although several British companies have exhibited independently with success at this annual event in previous years and there has been British official participation in the past.

In all some 47 countries mounted national pavilions and 170 foreign companies and organisations participated, while the Iraqi government itself had 122 pavilions.

The British products on display covered a wide range of goods with the emphasis, rightly, on capital equipment. The Iraqi government's determination to use its revenue from oil, estimated to be running at $1 million an hour, to give the 12 million Iraqi people a modern standard of living and to create a self-sustaining economy, gives rise to an ambitious development programme and creates a vast demand for all types of goods not at present made locally. The import programme for 1976 came to more than £4,000 million and 1977 will no doubt show an increase.

It is essential for British firms to establish themselves in this growing market now and if further proof were needed that this can be done – on top of trade figures that have gone up since 1973 by more than 500 per cent to £140 million last year – this year's Baghdad fair showed the way. Firm orders were more than sufficient in most cases to cover costs, but in addition many serious inquiries were received and much goodwill established.

Many of the British firms exhibiting were established exporters to Iraq. Others who were entering the market for the first time found the fair a good means of doing so. Howard Rotovator, no newcomers to Iraq, was exhibiting for the first time. The company is convinced that during the next 10 years Iraq will offer a substantial market for British agricultural machinery – both tractors and implements. Littlejohn Graphic Systems Ltd produces equipment for the packaging and printing industry and is confident of substantial orders for their reproduction and plate making equipment. Smart and Brown's Mr Palmer said: 'I am surprised that more British companies are not making a greater effort here'. These words would be echoed by others. A spokesman for F. W. McConnell Ltd said: 'Providing British firms do their homework and offer an efficient after-sales service there is a tremendous market for all types of British capital goods in this country'.

In short these British firms which exhibited at Baghdad found there was a profitable market in Iraq today, with great potential for growth, and that the fair was a most successful way of gaining entry or of consolidating success.

British industry has a good name in the market, based on long association. English is the second language and many potential customers received training in Britain. These are sure foundations for future trade, but the potential can only be realised by efforts such as those which went into this year's fair.

John Graham, British ambassador at Baghdad (left) weighs in on the Avery stand at the Baghdad trade fair.

British hovercraft makes an impact at Algiers

From the commercial section, British embassy, Algiers

Potential orders worth over £1 million were placed with British firms at the thirteenth international trade fair of Algiers, held from 2 to 17 October. It was held concurrently this year with the second Pan African trade fair at which 25 African countries exhibited.

Eighteen companies exhibited in the British pavilion, nine for the first time. President Boumedienne opened the exhibition and later toured the British pavilion. The Algerian Minister of Commerce, Layachi Yaker, attended the British national day reception, which was given jointly by the British ambassador, Mr J. A. Robinson, and the exhibitors.

One of the outstanding attractions of the fair, though not formally part of it, was a British SRN6 hovercraft provided by Hoverwork Ltd of Cowes, to ferry visitors across the bay of Algiers. As a result, there are prospects that the state shipping line, CNAN, will charter hovercraft for the summer season next year.

British firms were satisfied with the potential orders placed and the number of serious inquiries received. Potential orders were valued at £1,351,114, of which all but £223,000 were placed by state organisations. The exhibitors are now awaiting the special fair import licence from the Algerian Ministry of Commerce which will enable them to translate potential orders into firm sales.

In the public works equipment sector, J. C. Bamford, exhibitors since 1969, put on an impressive display and received orders for everything in their stand. Backed by a strong after-sales-service the firm now has 150 machines operating in Algeria. Wadkin Ltd, the Leicester woodworking machinery company, received an order for all its equipment, from the state mechanical products organisation Sonacome.

While recognising that selling in Algeria requires a great deal of patience and skill, the exhibitors were encouraged by the response to their participation.

Paris business equipment show makes busy impression

From Robert Hyde, second secretary (commercial), British embassy, Paris

Eight British companies took part in a joint venture sponsored by the Business Equipment Trade Association at the 27th Salon International de l'Informatique, de la Communication et de l'Organisation du Bureau (Sicob) held at the Palais du CNIT at La Défense in Paris from 23 September to 1 October. The attendance of almost 292,000 showed an increase of 3.5 per cent over that for 1975, while the number of overseas trade visitors rose by 7 per cent.

All but three of the British exhibitors were showing office furniture, and all but one of these companies had exhibited at the previous year's salon; firms such as Arenson International, Antocks Lairn and Shannon Carson used the occasion to consolidate their improv-

ing position in the French market, while Lucas had a promising first show.

In general, the latest Sicob maintained the international reputation of its predecessors – products from 28 countries were on display – while the exhibition was at least as well attended as in previous years and continued to make a busy and businesslike impression.

Nuclear shop window for British products

From R. H. T. Bates, consul, British consulate-general, Geneva

Cern, the European Centre for Nuclear Research, once again acted host to 14 firms participating in an all British exhibition from 11 to 15 October. It was jointly sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers' Association representing the British Measurement, control and automation conference. This was the fourth such British exhibition held at Cern during the past seven years. As on previous occasions the exhibitors were well pleased with their participation and, with only one exception, hope to return in two years' time.

Cern is an intergovernmental organisation of 12 European states including Britain and was established in 1954 to become the principal European centre for fundamental research into the structure of matter at sub-nuclear level. It is now one of the largest concentrations of sophisticated scientific equipment in the world, and is the largest single purchaser of fast electronic equipment in Europe. Its budget in 1975 was approximately £100 million, about 60 per cent of which was spent on the purchase of equipment and the payment for supplies and services. Although electronic instrumentation and components represent only a small proportion of this expenditure it is not surprising that British firms engaged in this field are keen to take advantage of these regular joint venture exhibitions to display their latest technological developments to the hundreds of professional scientists, engineers and technicians employed by Cern.

The purpose of the exhibition was to provide a shop window for British products, and although the companies involved did not expect to take firm orders on the spot, one company did in fact obtain some business. Some companies reported that during the week they had learned of future business opportunities in their particular fields, which they were able to discuss in detail with those directly concerned.

Successful though the exhibition was for a number of companies it is generally agreed that such is the highly specialised nature of Cern the only sure recipe for success for would-be suppliers is to send fully-qualified technical representatives on frequent visits to Cern in order to maintain contact with the officials engaged in the design and ordering of equipment and supplies. It may be of interest to British companies who are unfamiliar with Cern to know that a recent market report on electronic instruments and components in Switzerland issued by the Export Intelligence Services of the Department of Trade contains much useful information on this subject.

British ambassador, A. K. Rothnie (centre), on the stand of Grenson Electronics at Cern. On his right is Laurence Clarke, chairman, MCAC.

British fashion makes excellent impression in Zürich

From R. E. Coghlan, commercial officer, British consulate-general, Zürich

Under the auspices of the British Overseas Trade Board 11 British companies took part in the Modexpo international ladies' fashion fair held in Zürich from 10 to 12 October 1976. The joint venture was sponsored by the Clothing Export Council who also manned an information stand for the duration of the fair. Some 270 exhibitors showing a varied range of classic and fully fashioned ladies outerwear from 25 countries participated in the exhibition which was open to the trade only and attracted 4,130 visitors.

The selection of merchandise displayed by the British exhibitors clearly enhanced the UK's prestige and reputation in the fashion field, and almost without exception proved to be attractive, well-finished and eminently suited to the Swiss market. The wide range of products shown included high fashion suede and leather, evening and cocktail dresses, jeans, skirts, kilts and co-ordinated knitwear, top quality coats and separates, bridal gowns and the Alcantara suede type fabrics.

Some firms were exhibiting for the first time in Switzerland; others came to maintain and renew personal contact with old-established clients. Most of the important buyers from the large department stores, together with those from the small boutiques, visited the exhibition although some were cautious about placing orders until they had seen the full range of collections at the Paris Prêt-à-Porter.

Several British exhibitors received good orders and most were optimistic that substantial follow-up business would come their way in London. Those who had prepared the ground well beforehand by sending invitations to visit their stands to agents and importers were among those who did best. The majority were satisfied with their participation which they considered had been well worth while. They would take part in Modexpo again.

The British stand occupied a favourable position in the centre of the exhibition hall, and attracted a visit from Swiss television which showed on the national news very attractive models displaying good examples of some of the best in Britain fashion. This was evidence of the excellent impression which the British presence created.

British fashion at Modexpo proved eminently suited to the Swiss market.

Overseas trade export successes

Nigeria orders UK telephone cables

Telephone Cables Ltd of Dagenham (TCL), a GEC subsidiary, has obtained a contract from the Nigerian Ministry of Communications, for the supply, installation and conversion of local telephone cable networks in six towns of Kano, Kaduna, Maidurguri, Jos, Bida and Minna, all situated in Northern Nigeria.

The value of the contract is £33 million and forms part of the Nigerian government's third national development plan 1975-80.

The contract requires TCL to expand and modernise the existing networks, which in turn will provide facilities to some 150,000 telephone subscribers. This work will be a complete turnkey project and TCL will have the overall responsibility for supply, installation and commissioning, together with all civil works associated with the networks.

Cementation in $85 million Dubai building deal

A new company, called Galadari Cementation Construction (Private) Ltd, has been formed between Cementation International Ltd, part of the Trafalgar House Group, and Abdul Wahab Galadari to build an $85 million complex in Dubai.

The complex, the biggest private enterprise project in the United Arab Emirates, will include 475 hotel rooms and suites, over 400 apartments, a revolving tower restaurant at a height of some 29 storeys, international night club and theatre, health and sports centre, offices, additional restaurants and coffee shops and large car parks.

Qatar sewerage contract won by British firm

Two contracts with a total value of approximately £615,000 have been awarded to the contracting division of Mather and Platt (Exports) Ltd, by the Qatar Ministry of Public Works.

The first contract is for the equipment of four sewage pumping stations for a sewerage scheme serving new developments in Doha. The equipment comprises 10 sewage pumps with driving motors, switchgear, pipework and valves, lifting gear, ventilation plant, electrical cabling, and a telemetry (communications) system.

The second contract is for equipment for four pumping stations for the Doha return effluent scheme, which will use treated effluent from the Doha sewerage system for irrigating newly cultivated areas around the city. The equipment includes eight pumps with driving motors, switchgear, pipework and valves, lifting gear, electrical cabling, lighting and water level control systems.

Second dynamometer to Romania

A second Froude FA14 special hydraulic dynamometer has been dispatched to Romania. Capable of absorbing and accurately measuring 35,000 h.p. at speeds between 290 rpm and 600 rpm, it will be installed in the ICM factory at Resita where it will be used to test the new generation of high-speed V-form marine Diesel engines manufactured by ICM under licence from MAN of Germany. A FA21 dynamometer capable of absorbing 62,000 h.p., was exported to the ICM factory last May.

Switchgear orders for Africa

Two large contracts have been received by the high voltage switchgear division of GEC Switchgear Ltd, Stafford, for the supply of 330,000 volt substation equipment to Nigeria and Zambia.

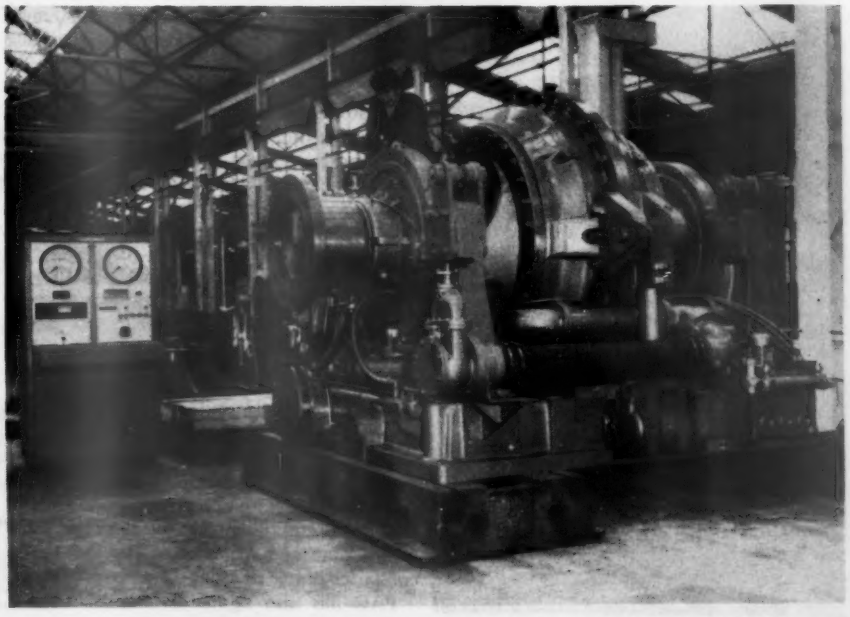
The first order, worth more than £5 million, has been placed by the National Electric Power Authority of Nigeria for switchgear to extend three of their existing substations, at Benin, Kaduna, and Jebba.

The second contract, worth over £1 million, has been placed by the Zambia Electricity Supply Corporation through their consulting engineers, Merz and McLellan, of Newcastle upon Tyne. This covers the supply and erection of equipment for a new five-circuit substation at Chisasa.

US contract for Brockhouse Transmissions

A contract worth £1.5 million for the manufacture of power-shift transmissions for use in

The Froude FA14 dynamometer receives final adjustments.



United States-made earth moving vehicles has been placed with Brockhouse Transmissions Ltd of West Bromwich, by a large United States international company.

This initial export order, covering a four-year contract, is, the company claims, only the start of a long-term supply potential. Other transmission and torque converter orders are being negotiated.

Concrete orders reach £2 million for Stelmo

Export orders for complete concrete production plants totalling over £2 million have been won by Stelmo Ltd of Ashford, Kent.

Recent orders gained by the company include tunnelling equipment for the Washington metro system in the United States totalling £300,000, three housing plants in Iran and Saudi Arabia totalling £500,000, three housing plants in Venezuela totalling £500,000 and production plants for harbour projects for Jubail Port, Saudi Arabia, and Mutrah in Muscat and Oman, totalling £750,000.

Most of the production plants will include craneage, mixing and batching systems, mechanised concrete handling systems and transport.

£24,000 furniture order for Australia

Leslie Blackwell Ltd, furniture manufacturers of Ponders End, Middlesex, manufacturers of the 'Country House' range of reproduction furniture, has secured a £24,000 order for western Australia. The first piece is shown being loaded into the container at the factory, and it is supervised by Mr L. Ewen (lower left), the works manager.

Metered mail in Mecca

Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones have purchased a postage metering system from Pitney Bowes Ltd worth in excess of £100,000.

Metered mail is a new development for Saudi Arabia. The Ministry have chosen Pitney Bowes, who originated the first postage meters in the UK in 1922, to supply and install 200 meters and organise training of post office staff.

Initially they will install meters (franking machines) in Post Offices at the capital Riyadh, Jeddah, Damman, Medina and Mecca. Customers will have their post franked by a machine on the counter rather than purchasing stamps — often in short supply — and pay the counter clerk.

As well as supplying the equipment Pitney Bowes is setting up a complete administrative system. This involves training supervisors, clerks and maintenance engineers; establishing an accounting system; designing record forms and ensuring the system is secure.

A training school is being set-up in Riyadh by Pitney Bowes and machine delivery starts at the beginning of 1977. The system is part of the Saudi government's five year modernisation programme for the post office.

Major casting contracts completed for Indian oil industries

Two major export contracts involving the production of 21 tons of specialist chromium-nickel castings for India's oil and petrochemicals industries have now been completed by Cronite Foundry Company Ltd of Crewkerne, a division of the Cronite Group.

The contracts — together valued at about £100,000 — involve nearly 2,000 individual castings within a weight range of 50g to 800kg.

The castings are employed mainly as separators and supports for the batteries of pipes and tubes carrying 1,000° C gaseous hydrocarbons from the massive furnace equipment now installed at India's Gujarat Refinery expansion project.

PAC succeeds in eastern Europe

Precision Air Control Ltd has successfully negotiated its twenty-first contract in Poland. The order was received from CIRZ, the Polish Ministry of Shipping, and involved the supply of close control air conditioning and allied equipment for the joint Ministry of Shipping and Ministry of Foreign Trade computer centre in Gdansk.

PAC has also signed its fourth contract with the Hungarian Ministry of Construction. The contract calls for specialised close control air conditioning equipment and associated services for the Ministry of Construction's computer complex in Budapest. This brings PAC's number of contracts in Hungary to 26.

Baker Perkins wins £0.5 million aluminium plant contract

Fives Lille-Cail Iberica SA has placed a contract valued at £0.5 million with Baker Perkins Chemical Machinery Ltd for plant that will be installed in a new aluminium smelter in northern Spain.

Baker Perkins is supplying one of the company's Polykneaders (UKE-550-NNE) which continuously processes the anode paste used in manufacturing aluminium. It will be one of the largest of its type used for this purpose and will be built at Peterborough.

Simon wins Egyptian flour mill contract

Henry Simon Ltd of Stockport, a Simon Food Engineering company has won an order from the East Delta Flour Milling Company of Egypt for flour milling units at a cost of £3.72 million.

Two of the units will be situated in a new building at Suez and the others will be at Port Said and Ismailia. Each will have a 24-hour input capacity of 100 tons of wheat. Simon has been made responsible for design, erection and commissioning.

Weather facsimile equipment wins orders for Muirhead

Recent orders from Holland, Libya, India and Switzerland have added more than £120,000 to Muirhead export sales of weather facsimile equipment.

In Holland, the Royal Dutch Air Force has ordered 15 of Muirhead's K649 TR4 Weather Chart Recorders and two K150 TR4 Weather Chart Transmitters. The total value is approximately £66,000.

The Meteorology Department of the Libyan Ministry of Communications has ordered a further six recorders worth about £24,000

In India, the national Space Applications Centre order, worth £26,000, is for a Muirhead VHRR Weather Satellite Recorder. This is a high definition laser recorder delivering processed pictures of the earth via VHRR transmissions from meteorological satellites.

As part of the launch of Europe's first geostationary satellite by the European Space Agency, Muirhead has received an order from CIR in Bern, Switzerland, to supply equipment, valued at £8,500, for the secondary data user station.

NB

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Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index Series in Stock level at end-1975	1970	£ million	£ million			£ million 18,209	10,399	1,807	1,976	£ million		
1970	100	31,644	9,453	2,130	1,799	442	325	68	−14	733	−25	758
1971	102	32,505	9,681	1,991	1,930	99	−148	52	22	1,084	280	804
1972	104	34,402	9,870	1,739	2,071	39	−145	48	15	154	−702	856
1973	110	35,935	10,279	1,872	2,362	1,127	404	102	382	−736	−2,334	1,598
1974	110	35,612	10,087	2,024	2,251	604	666	81	−111	−3,347	−5,220	1,873
1975	108	35,374	9,967	1,737	1,964	−699	−392	−111	−23	−1,673	−3,204	1,531
1973 4th qtr	110	8,986	2,584	467	615	197	91	32	47	−395	−949	554
1974 1st qtr	106	8,853	2,594	510	591	−105	−21	18	−38	−822	−1,288	466
2nd qtr.	111	8,814	2,436	502	562	321	197	43	19	−858	−1,355	497
3rd qtr.	112	8,956	2,476	501	548	330	358	3	−39	−763	−1,242	479
4th qtr.	111	8,989	2,581	511	550	58	133	17	−53	−904	−1,335	431
1975 1st qtr.	110	8,989	2,533	471	497	−126	18	−31	−38	−452	−852	400
2nd qtr.	108	8,851	2,460	444	495	−269	−105	−54	−66	−366	−681	315
3rd qtr.	107	8,776	2,528	416	496	−214	−234	−29	38	−561	−989	428
4th qtr.	108	8,758	2,446	406	476	−90	−70	4	43	−294	−682	388
1976 1st qtr.	109	8,866	2,448	402	460	22	31	23	12	−39	−473	434
2nd qtr.	108	8,789	2,386	411	475	−161	−130	−22	−55	−553	−1,040	487
3rd qtr.		8,860 pe								−705	−1,185	480
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+1.3	+0.1	−2.8	−1.1	−3.8							
on a year earlier	−0.1	+0.1	−3.2	−11.1	−5.7							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs (NOT seasonally adjusted)					Labour (UK)			Visible Trade (Volume)	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices	% increase on a year earlier	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Export	Import
	at 1970 prices		at 1971 prices	monthly averages									On a balance of payments basis at 1970 prices	
Base of index £m in base year Series in	1970	1970	1971 15,895	thousands	Jan. 1974		1970	1970	July 1972	thousands		thousands	1970 7,907	1970 7,932
1971	100.4	99.6	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	775.8	3.4	130.9	106.7	104.2
1972	102.7	102.4	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	854.9	3.7	147.3	106.6	116.3
1973	110.2	110.8	110.7	137.1	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2	115.6	611.0	2.6	307.0	121.8	133.9
1974	106.3	108.1	109.9	102.8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.7	599.5●	2.6●	302.2●	130.1	135.2
1975	101.0	101.4	107.9	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.4	188.7	179.8	929.0	3.9	148.2●	124.9	125.6
1974 3rd qtr.	108.4	109.9	111.2	107	110.2	17.0	212.9	156.1	144.0	613.7	2.6	308.7	133.4	136.4
4th qtr.	105.0	105.8	111.3	97	115.1	18.2	222.1	164.9	153.5	..	..	..	126.5	133.0
1975 1st qtr.	104.4	105.9	111.3	108	122.0	20.3	220.9	176.0	163.6	737.8	3.1	..	128.9	125.4
2nd qtr.	100.1	100.4	108.9	94	133.6	24.3	225.6	186.3	176.3	847.4	3.6	164.4	122.6	122.2
3rd qtr.	99.4	99.5	105.5	103	139.4	26.6	239.3	193.4	185.5	1,000.0	4.2	133.6	120.0	127.4
4th qtr.	100.3	100.0	105.8	84	144.2	25.3	256.1	199.1	193.8	1,132.1	4.8	113.6	128.3	127.2
1976 1st qtr.	101.5	101.5	107.3	106	149.4	22.5	266.5	206.9	205.5	1,223.2	5.2	115.5	131.6	124.0
2nd qtr.	102.0	103.1	106.7	106	154.9	16.0	292.6	214.4	212.8	1,246.5	5.3	119.6	137.1	137.1
3rd qtr.			108.6 p	97	158.5	13.7	306.6 p	223.1 p	218.6 p	1,307.5	5.5	124.7	132.8 p	137.3 p
1975 Oct.	100.6	100.5	104.8	85	142.5	25.9	252.3	197.0	187.5	1,088.7	4.6	118.9	130.5	128.9
Nov.	100.7	100.5	105.2	81	144.2	25.2	256.7	198.9	195.6	1,133.0	4.8	111.8	123.4	128.0
Dec.	99.6	99.0	107.0	87	146.0	24.9	259.5	201.5	198.2	1,174.6	5.0	110.1	130.9	124.7
1976 Jan.	101.0	101.6	109.8	115	147.9	23.4	261.5	204.8	202.1	1,210.5	5.1	111.1	131.5	125.1
Feb.	101.9	101.4	107.1	101	149.8	22.9	263.9	207.3	206.4	1,232.4	5.2	113.5	128.4	127.0
Mar.	101.7	101.6	105.5	101	150.6	21.2	274.2	208.6	207.9	1,226.6	5.2	122.0	134.9	119.9
Apr.	102.0	102.8	108.5	118	153.5	18.9	286.3	211.5	210.1	1,233.7	5.2	123.9	134.8	134.0
May	103.9	105.7	105.7	112	155.2	15.4	292.0	214.8	211.7	1,250.0	5.3	120.6	138.2	139.7
June	100.2	100.7	106.1	88	156.0	13.8	299.6	217.0	216.6	1,255.7	5.3	114.3	138.4	137.7
July	101.8	103.2	108.3	87	156.3	12.9	302.0	219.8	218.5	1,294.6	5.5	117.6	129.8	140.0
Aug.	100.8	101.9	108.9	115	158.5	13.8	303.9 p	223.3 p	218.6	1,309.4	5.6	127.5	132.1	131.4
Sept.			108½p	88	160.6	14.3	314.0 p	226.2 p	218.7 p	1,318.6	5.6	129.0	136.6 p	140.4 p
Oct.										1,305.5 p	5.5	126.2 p		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−1.6	−1.4	+1.8	−8.8	+2.3		+4.8	+4.0	+2.7	+3.5		+8.6	−3	—
on a year earlier	+1.8	+2.6	+2.9	−6.1	+13.7		+28.2	+15.4	+17.9	+26.1		−0.8	+11	+8

p Provisional pe Preliminary estimate † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100 .. not available ● Average of 11 months

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Quarterly

SD 7 Assets and liabilities of finance houses for second quarter 1976

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available
— nil or less than half the final digit shown
p provisional
r revised
* five-week period
• fifty-three week period

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Official reserves in October

The United Kingdom official reserves fell by $455 million during October. At the end of October they stood at $4,703 million.

Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 29 October 1976.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
A Town Called Ayr	BR/E 38806/31/10/81	18	27 October	United Artists Corporation Ltd	Pelicula Films Ltd
Ride A Wild Pony	BR/E 38807/31/10/81	91	28 October	Walt Disney Productions Ltd	Walt Disney Productions Ltd
Review No 3 (30th Year)	BR/E 38810/31/10/81	10	29 October	Data Film Distributors Ltd	The National Coal Board
Movietone News 2473	BR/E 38639/31/10/81	8	29 October	British Movietonews Ltd	British Movietonews Ltd
			COMMUNITY		
Sex Machine	EC/38801/31/10/81	90	26 October	New Realm Distributors Ltd	Clesi Cinematografica S.P.A., Rome
Salesmen on the Job	EC/38802/31/10/81	70	26 October	New Realm Distributors Ltd	City-Film GmbH, Berlin
Seven Women For Satan	EC/38803/31/10/81	80	27 October	Intercontinental Film Distributors Ltd	Les Productions du Daunou and Realisations Michel Lemoine, Paris
I Will – If You Will	EC/38811/31/10/81	88	29 October	Intercontinental Film Distributors Ltd	C. C. Champion, Rome
Vices in the Family	EC/38812/31/10/81	82	29 October	Intercontinental Film Distributors Ltd	Flora Film, Rome
			FOREIGN		
Face to Face	F 38800	136	26 October	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	Cinematograph A.B., Stockholm
Virgin Doll	F 38804	79	27 October	Intercontinental Film Distributors Ltd	Box Office International Films Inc, California
The Pink Pill	F 38805	6	27 October	United Artists Corporation Ltd	Mirisch Geoffrey D. F., California
The Specialist	F 38808	93	29 October	Lancair Film Distributors Ltd	Renaissance Productions Ltd, California
Dial Rat for Terror	F 38809	93	29 October	Ember Film Distributors Ltd	Larry Cohen Productions, Hollywood, L.A.
When the North Wind Blows	F 38813	113	29 October	Sun Classic Productions (GB) Ltd	Sun International Productions, California
Free Ride	F 38814	10	29 October	Sun Classic Productions (GB) Ltd	Pyramid Films, Hollywood, California

Amendments to the register

The registration number of the film 'Down the Ancient Stairs', registered on 13 September 1976 has been amended to EC/38764/19/9/81.
The title of the film 'The Spoilers' (F 38769) registered on 16 September 1976 has been amended to read STAB.

Insolvencies in England and Wales: third quarter 1976

On a seasonally adjusted basis, company liquidations fell in the third quarter of 1976, following a smaller fall in the previous quarter and an otherwise unbroken rise since the fourth quarter of 1973. Their level, however, remained high. Receiving orders (including administration orders and deeds of arrangement), on a seasonally adjusted basis, also fell in the third quarter, more than offsetting the slight rise in the previous quarter, though their level also remained high.

Table 1 shows that, after seasonal adjustment, there were about 1,430 company liquidations in the third quarter of 1976, made up of about 600 compulsory liquidations and about 830 creditors' voluntary liquidations. The total is about 4 per cent lower than in the previous quarter but about 3 per cent higher than a year earlier. Both compulsory liquidations and creditors' voluntary liquidations were 4 per cent lower in the third quarter of 1976. Before seasonal adjustment, there were 1,146 company liquidations in the third quarter, made up of 320 compulsory liquidations and 826 creditors' voluntary liquidations.

Table 1 also shows that, after seasonal adjustment, there were about 1,710 receiving orders (including administration orders and deeds of arrangement) in the third quarter of 1976, a fall of about 6 per cent compared with the previous quarter and a fall of about 9 per cent compared with a year earlier. Before seasonal adjustment, the figure for receiving orders (including administration orders and deeds of arrangement) in the third quarter of 1976 was 1,560.

The quarterly seasonally adjusted figures since the beginning of 1968 show that there was a general fall in the number of insolvencies from mid-1970 to mid-1973, followed by a sharp rise, which continued until mid-1975 for receiving orders and until early 1976 for company liquidations. Receiving orders have generally fallen, slightly, since mid-1975 and company liquidations have fallen since early-1976, slightly in the second quarter and more steeply in the third quarter.

Industrial analysis

Table 2 gives the industrial analysis of receiving orders administered (including administration orders and deeds of arrangement) up to the second quarter of 1976. This table excludes orders that were rescinded before the business of the debtor could be investigated and deeds that were voided; the figures therefore do not agree with those in table 1, which are for all receiving orders, administration orders, and deeds of arrangement that were made. The compilation of the data for the fourth quarter differs from that for the other quarters. It is therefore preferable in this article to compare the analysis for the second quarter of 1976 with those of the first quarter and the second and third quarters of 1975. On this basis, the table shows that, apart from a noticeable rise in the percentage in construction, the industrial analysis for the second quarter of 1976 was much the same as in the earlier quarters though the percentage of receiving orders in the service trades and in financial and professional services fell slightly. About 67 per cent of receiving orders were accounted for by self-employed, a little higher than in the earlier quarters, within which, as usual, about

TABLE 1 Insolvencies

England and Wales — Number

	Bankruptcies					Company liquidations					
	Unadjusted				Seasonally adjusted	Unadjusted			Seasonally adjusted		
	Total	Receiving orders	Administration orders	Deeds of arrangement	Total	Total	Compulsory	Creditors' voluntary	Total	Compulsory	Creditors' voluntary
1968	4,298	4,123	27	148		3,165	1,108	2,057			
1969	4,772	4,532	20	220		3,510	1,181	2,329			
1970	5,087	4,878	29	180		3,689	1,269	2,420			
1971	4,793	4,630	13	150		3,506	1,166	2,340			
1972	4,337	4,225	19	93		3,063	1,150	1,913			
1973	3,917	3,805	12	100		2,575	1,080	1,495			
1974	5,718	5,595	13	110		3,720	1,395	2,325			
1975	7,271	7,123	20	128		5 398	2,287	3,111			
1968 1st quarter	1,231	1,190		41	1,121	897	307	590	850	287	563
2nd quarter	1,024	985		39	1,040	775	279	496	772	271	501
3rd quarter	932	907		25	1,020	586	148	438	731	270	461
4th quarter	1,111	1,068		43	1,117	907	374	533	812	280	532
1969 1st quarter	1,231	1,173		58	1,135	872	318	554	824	296	528
2nd quarter	1,095	1,055		40	1,094	871	308	563	864	298	566
3rd quarter	1,215	1,157		58	1,319	798	171	627	957	305	652
4th quarter	1,231	1,167		64	1,224	969	384	585	865	282	583
1970 1st quarter	1,314	1,273		41	1,236	981	318	663	942	305	637
2nd quarter	1,321	1,280		41	1,308	966	339	627	971	335	636
3rd quarter	1,219	1,174		45	1,324	744	169	575	893	303	590
4th quarter	1,233	1,180		53	1,219	998	443	555	883	326	557
1971 1st quarter	1,171	1,145		26	1,110	760	310	450	730	297	433
2nd quarter	1,253	1,205		48	1,237	945	285	660	942	275	667
3rd quarter	1,137	1,092		45	1,233	777	172	605	925	308	617
4th quarter	1,232	1,201		31	1,213	1,024	399	625	909	286	623
1972 1st quarter	1,222	1,197		25	1,166	877	291	586	855	284	571
2nd quarter	1,200	1,175		25	1,187	799	293	506	799	284	515
3rd quarter	866	844		22	945	614	160	454	753	291	462
4th quarter	1,049	1,028		21	1,039	773	406	367	656	291	365
1973 1st quarter	1,011	982		29	954	710	273	437	700	271	429
2nd quarter	952	919		33	941	653	308	345	655	302	353
3rd quarter	875	858		17	955	463	130	333	579	241	338
4th quarter	1,079	1,058		21	1,067	749	369	380	641	266	375
1974 1st quarter	1,322	1,296		26	1,230	713	264	449	701	258	443
2nd quarter	1,341	1,314		27	1,329	844	309	535	847	297	550
3rd quarter	1,377	1,355		22	1,500	829	224	605	1,023	415	608
4th quarter	1,678	1,643		35	1,659	1,334	598	736	1,149	425	724
1975 1st quarter	1,938	1,900		38	1,793	1,238	540	698	1,228	538	690
2nd quarter	1,816	1,783		33	1,814	1,317	593	724	1,328	582	746
3rd quarter	1,719	1,693		26	1,879	1,138	279	859	1,393	532	861
4th quarter	1,798	1,767		31	1,785	1,705	875	830	1,449	635	814
1976 1st quarter	1,921	1,891		30	1,773	1,554	687	867	1,530	670	860
2nd quarter	1,807	1,785		22	1,814	1,490	653	837	1,492	630	862
3rd quarter	1,560	1,539		21	1,709	1,146	320	826	1,430	603	827

2 per cent were in manufacturing and 17 per cent in distribution; however, construction, the largest category, accounted for about 25 per cent, compared with about 22 per cent in the previous quarter.

Table 3 gives the industrial analysis of company liquidations up to the second quarter of 1976. There was a rise of 2 points in the percentage in manufacturing in the second quarter, following a fall of about the same amount in the previous quarter, and a rise of about 2½ points in the percentage in construction, reversing the trend downwards that has been apparent since mid-1975. The percentage in other consumer services fell to about 5 per cent, after standing at about 10 per cent in the previous quarter. Other changes were fairly small.

Changes in the industrial analysis should be interpreted with caution because of the difficulty of making precise industrial classifications in many cases and the erratic nature of the series.

High Court and county court figures

The figures for receiving and administration orders and compulsory liquidation winding-up orders in the High Court and county courts during the third quarter of 1976 and the four preceding quarters are as follows:

	1975		1976		
	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.
Receiving and administration orders					
High Court	334	498	379	467	359
County courts	1,359	1,269	1,512	1,318	1,180
Total	1,693	1,767	1,891	1,785	1,539
Compulsory liquidation winding-up orders					
High Court	175	746	552	527	192
County courts	104	129	135	126	128
Total	279	875	687	653	320

Notes

An article describing these statistics and giving quarterly figures from the beginning of 1960 to the end of 1974 (with industrial analyses from the beginning of 1969 to the third quarter of 1974) was published in *Economic Trends* for March 1975.

The figures for bankruptcies in table 1 refer to persons, who are dealt with under the Bankruptcy Act 1914 and the Bankruptcy (Amendment) Act 1926 or who make arrangements with their creditors under the Deeds of Arrangement Act 1914. A receiving order is made by the court on the petition of a creditor if it is satisfied that the debtor has committed an act of bankruptcy, as listed in Section 1 of the Bankruptcy Act 1914, or on the petition of the debtor himself. The order makes the official receiver, who is an officer of the court, receiver of the debtor's estate and deprives the debtor of the right to deal with it. Administration orders, which are made under section 130 of the Bankruptcy Act 1914, relate to deceased insolvents. Deeds of arrangement relate to arrangements between debtors and creditors that are reached, without recourse to the courts, under the Deeds of Arrangement Act 1914.

Insolvent partnerships are dealt with under the bankruptcy acts and are included in the figures for receiving orders in table 1. A single receiving order may be made against a partnership or receiving orders may be made against partners individually, when each is included in table 1. If separate receiving orders are made, they are consolidated before being proceeded with and appear as a single receiving order in table 2.

Receiving orders administered, referred to in table 2, are those receiving orders not consolidated or rescinded before the end of the year. For the first three quarters of the year the industrial analysis in table 2 is compiled about two months after the end of the quarter, to allow time for the statistics to be collected. Some of these receiving orders may later be rescinded. The analysis for the fourth quarter is obtained by subtracting the figures for the first three quarters from the figures for the full year. The industrial analysis for the full year takes

TABLE 2 Industrial analysis of receiving orders administered(1)

England and Wales

	Numbers							Percentages						
			1975			1976				1975			1976	
Industry	1974	1975	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	1974	1975	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.
Self-employed														
Agriculture	90	167	37	28	68	36	40	1.7	2.4	2.4	1.9	3.3	2.2	2.8
Manufacturing:														
Food, drink and tobacco	4	2	—	—	2	—	—	0.1	—	—	—	0.1	—	—
Chemicals	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Metals and engineering	45	75	14	17	33	13	9	0.8	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.6	0.8	0.6
Textiles and clothing	35	42	8	8	20	11	5	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	1.0	0.7	0.3
Timber and furniture	36	43	12	9	10	12	2	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.1
Paper, printing and publishing	21	23	9	3	9	3	5	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3
Other manufacturing	11	13	—	4	4	3	2	0.2	0.2	—	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1
Total manufacturing	152	199	43	41	79	42	23	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.8	3.9	2.5	1.6
Construction	1,056	1,543	367	283	456	361	360	19.9	22.6	23.5	19.1	22.4	21.7	25.1
Road haulage	342	458	88	96	160	77	83	6.4	6.7	5.6	6.5	7.9	4.6	5.8
Wholesaling:														
Consumer goods	42	54	15	9	14	4	17	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.2	1.2
Non-consumer goods	55	68	11	12	24	13	18	1.0	1.0	0.7	0.8	1.2	0.8	1.3
Retailing:														
Food	345	380	79	75	131	84	75	6.5	5.6	5.1	5.1	6.4	5.1	5.2
Non-food	576	718	148	146	257	174	132	10.8	10.5	9.5	9.8	12.6	10.5	9.2
Finance and professional services	237	306	74	72	91	75	58	4.5	4.5	4.7	4.8	4.5	4.5	4.0
Hotels and restaurants	213	291	55	71	107	81	55	4.0	4.3	3.5	4.8	5.3	4.9	3.8
Garages	198	307	41	50	154	54	37	3.7	4.5	2.6	3.4	7.6	3.3	2.6
Other consumer services	195	216	54	47	70	67	44	3.7	3.2	3.5	3.2	3.4	4.0	3.1
Other industries	31	82	12	10	41	14	18	0.6	1.2	0.8	0.7	2.0	0.8	1.3
Total	3,532	4,789	1,024	940	1,652	1,082	960	66.5	70.2	65.7	63.3	81.1	65.2	66.9
Other individuals														
Employees, no occupation and unemployed	1,485	1,512	431	450	175	472	377	27.9	22.2	27.6	30.3	8.6	28.4	26.3
Directors and promoters of companies	244	405	69	67	186	86	67	4.6	5.9	4.4	4.5	9.1	5.2	4.7
Occupation unknown	53	115	35	28	25	20	32	1.0	1.7	2.2	1.9	1.2	1.2	2.2
Total	1,782	2,032	535	545	386	578	476	33.5	29.8	34.3	36.7	18.9	34.8	33.1
All receiving orders administered	5,314	6,821	1,559	1,485	2,038	1,660	1,436	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Note:

(1) Receiving orders made during the year, *less* those consolidated or rescinded before the end of the year, together with administration orders and deeds of arrangement on the same basis. The totals for all receiving orders administered are thus not equal to the totals shown in Table 1. The construction of the quarterly figures is explained in the notes at the end of the article.

TABLE 3 Industrial analysis of total compulsory and creditors' voluntary liquidations

England and Wales

Industry	Numbers							Percentages						
			1975			1976				1975			1976	
	1974	1975	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	1974	1975	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr
Agriculture	16	48	13	16	13	12	6	0.4	0.9	1.0	1.4	0.8	0.8	0.4
Manufacturing:														
Food, drink and tobacco	62	62	9	18	15	21	9	1.7	1.1	0.7	1.6	0.9	1.4	0.6
Chemicals	33	53	5	19	18	12	11	0.9	1.0	0.4	1.7	1.1	0.8	0.7
Metals and engineering	323	400	99	95	116	116	102	8.7	7.4	7.5	8.3	6.8	7.5	6.8
Textiles and clothing	171	230	63	56	74	65	66	4.6	4.3	4.8	4.9	4.3	4.2	4.4
Timber and furniture	124	114	31	22	26	30	37	3.3	2.1	2.4	1.9	1.5	1.9	2.5
Paper, printing and publishing	124	207	44	43	74	36	52	3.3	3.8	3.3	3.8	4.3	2.3	3.5
Other manufacturing	109	209	41	42	78	52	72	2.9	3.9	3.1	3.7	4.6	3.3	4.8
Total manufacturing	946	1,275	292	295	401	332	349	25.4	23.6	22.2	25.9	23.5	21.4	23.4
Construction	776	956	277	182	257	232	258	20.9	17.7	21.0	16.0	15.1	14.9	17.3
Road haulage	213	304	76	83	74	64	68	5.7	5.6	5.8	7.3	4.3	4.1	4.6
Wholesaling:														
Consumer goods	130	143	34	30	42	36	46	3.5	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.3	3.1
Non-consumer goods	191	318	73	68	82	61	54	5.1	5.9	5.5	6.0	4.8	3.9	3.6
Retailing:														
Food	81	119	28	31	37	35	24	2.2	2.2	2.1	2.7	2.2	2.3	1.6
Non-food	270	441	100	79	159	158	166	7.3	8.2	7.6	6.9	9.3	10.2	11.1
Financial and professional services	612	908	210	188	291	277	255	16.5	16.8	15.9	16.5	17.1	17.8	17.1
Hotels and restaurants	136	157	43	37	44	52	31	3.7	2.9	3.3	3.3	2.6	3.3	2.1
Garages	74	123	41	17	39	22	33	2.0	2.3	3.1	1.5	2.3	1.4	2.2
Other consumer services	81	184	39	37	80	149	78	2.2	3.4	3.0	3.3	4.7	9.6	5.2
Other industries	194	422	91	75	186	124	122	5.2	7.8	6.9	6.6	10.9	8.0	8.2
Total	3,720	5,398	1,317	1,138	1,705	1,554	1,490	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

account of revisions to the figures for the first three quarters and these are reflected in the analysis for the fourth quarter. It is therefore not appropriate to compare the industrial analysis for the fourth quarter with the analyses for the earlier quarters of the year.

Insolvent companies are dealt with under the Companies Acts 1948 and 1967 and the figures for company liquidations in table 1 refer to the two types of liquidation that involve insolvency. The figures for compulsory liquidations relate to winding-up orders made by the courts. The figures for creditors' voluntary liquidations, in which the company and its creditors come to terms without court proceedings, relate to notifications of resolutions to wind up. There is a third type, members' voluntary liquidations; these do not involve insolvency and they are not included in the figures in this article.

There is considerable seasonal variation between quarters in the insolvency series, mainly because about 25 per cent of all receiving orders and about 80 per cent of all compulsory liquidations are dealt with by the High Court, which has fewer sittings in the third quarter compared with other quarters because of the long vacation. For receiving orders, the seasonal fall in the third quarter is made up mainly in the following first quarter. Compulsory liquidations are more strongly seasonal, with a large fall in the third quarter followed by a large rise in the fourth. Creditor's voluntary liquidations are not particularly seasonal but seasonally adjusted figures for them are included in table 1.

Questions are often asked about the distribution of insolvencies by size or by region but it would be impracticable or very costly to compile statistics of this sort. There is no satisfactory measure of the size of an insolvency because a business tends to decline over a period and there are the problems of deciding for what time the size should be assessed and what measure should be used, and of obtaining this information retrospectively.

For regional statistics of bankruptcy, figures for receiving orders dealt with in the various courts provide some basis because cases are transferred to the court for the area in which the debtor lives or has his place of business. Annual figures for receiving orders analysed by court are given in the Bankruptcy General Annual Report. Regional statistics of company liquidations cannot be obtained in this way, because of the large proportion of cases dealt with by the High Court. There is also the difficulty that, although the address of the company's registered office may be known, the activities of the company are often located elsewhere and often extend over a wide area.

New earnings survey

In April 1976 average gross earnings of all full-time men in Great Britain were £71.80 a week. This is among the key results from the New Earnings Survey 1976 published in the October issue of the *Department of Employment Gazette*.

The average increase in weekly earnings for all full-time men since April 1975 was £11.00, or 18.1 per cent. In manual occupations average earnings were £65.10, an increase of £9.40 or 16.9 per cent. In non-manual occupations they were £81.60, an increase of £13.10 or 19.1 per cent.

For all full-time women average gross weekly earnings in April 1976 were £46.20, an increase of £8.80 or 23.4 per cent since April 1975. In manual occupations average earnings were £39.40, an increase of £7.30 or 22.8 per cent. In non-manual occupations they were £48.80, an increase of £9.30 or 23.4 per cent.

Thus between April 1975 and April 1976 the average manual and non-manual earnings of women, continued to increase substantially faster than men's; and that the earnings of non-manual workers, both men and women, increased a little faster than those of manual workers.

It is estimated that in April 1976 among full-time workers there were an insignificant number of men aged 21 and over and three-quarters of a million women (14 per cent) aged 18 and over earning under £30 a week. There were about half a million (five per cent) men aged 21 and over and two million (43 per cent) women aged 18 and over earning under £40 a week. There were about two million (18 per cent) men and three million (69 per cent) women earning under £50 a week. Some seven million (69 per cent) men and 1¼ million (29 per cent) women were earning between £50 and £100 and also 1¼ million (12 per cent) men earning over £100 per week.

Information about the earnings and hours in April of a sample of 170,000 workers was obtained from their employers in this eighth New Earnings Survey. For about two-thirds of these workers returns were also obtained in the 1975 survey.

The *Gazette* article is intended to provide a wide selection of information of interest to readers. More detailed results are being published in a six-part booklet. One of these (New Earnings Survey 1976, Part B) is already available and gives results for particular major collective agreements, wages boards and wages councils. Part A, on sale shortly, will include a detailed account of the survey methods, all the results given in *Gazette*, and some other general results. Results for particular industries, occupations and regions will be given in the later parts of the booklet.

'Energy Trends' reports big drop in domestic energy consumption

Energy consumption by final users in the domestic sector on a heat supplied basis in the second quarter of 1976 fell by more than 10 per cent compared with last year. This drop can be attributed to warm weather, fuel price increases made in April 1976 and continued energy conservation measures made by consumers.

Total energy consumption by final users on a heat supplied basis fell by almost 1 per cent in this period. But consumption by the iron and steel industry was nearly 12 per cent higher than a year ago, reflecting increased industrial activity.

These figures are shown in the latest issue of *Energy Trends*, the Department of Energy's monthly statistical bulletin.

Total home production of primary fuels during the second quarter of 1976, measured in thermal equivalent, was over 8 per cent higher than in the corresponding period last year.

North Sea oil accounted for most of the increased home production, but an increase of over 25 per cent in home production of primary electricity (nuclear and hydro) also contributed.

Deep-mined coal production in the first nine months of this year was almost 6 million tons less than the same period a year ago.

This drop was to some extent offset by an increase of 17.6 per cent in opencast coal production, leaving total production, at 88.9 million tons, about 3.6 million tons lower than last year.

Total gas sales in the second quarter of this year were about 2.4 per cent higher than a year ago.

There was a 23 per cent increase in gas offtake by the iron and steel industry and a 13 per cent increase in other industries' offtake. Sales to commercial and other non-industrial customers rose by 3 per cent, but sales to the domestic sector fell by about 5.7 per cent.

Total electricity demand during the three month period June-August 1976 was nearly 3 per cent higher than in the same months last year. The rising trend in total demand has continued since May, despite the hot summer, and probably indicates sustained higher demand by industry.

Total electricity sales in the second quarter of this year were about 2.6 per cent lower than a year ago – a fall which can be attributed wholly to a drop of 12 per cent in sales to the domestic sector.

Gross production of North Sea crude oil continued to expand and in August passed the 1 million tonne mark for the first time.

Total deliveries of petroleum products in the three month period July-August 1976 were 2 per cent higher than in the same period last year.

Demand for motor spirit rose by 5.5 per cent and demand for other transport fuels, Derv and aviation turbine fuel increased by about 4.5 per cent.

The final table in this month's *Energy Trends* gives details of electricity generated outside the public supply system, mainly by manufacturing industry.

Energy Trends is prepared by the Economics and Statistics Division of the Department of Energy. Copies may be obtained from Information Division, Department of Energy, Room 1674, Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ.

Man-made fibre production

Thousand metric tons

		Total	Continuous filament (singles)	Staple fibre
1968		539.1	241.8	297.4
1969		553.9	252.5	301.5
1970		599.4	257.6	341.9
1971		613.1	276.4	336.7
1972		626.5	264.0	362.5
1973		730.8	305.6	425.3
1974		627.6	271.0	356.6
1975		562.5	246.5	316.0
1975	1st quarter	129.1	56.4	72.7
	2nd quarter	148.8	61.9	86.9
	3rd quarter	134.1	58.5	75.7
	4th quarter	150.4	69.7	80.7
1976	1st quarter	159.8	70.0	89.8
	2nd quarter	157.5	69.7	87.7
1975	January	42.1	18.2	24.0
	February	42.6	17.6	25.0
	March	44.3	20.6	23.7
	April	48.1	20.0	28.1
	May	53.6	22.3	31.4
	June	47.0	19.6	27.4
	July	47.0	19.3	27.7
	August	40.8	17.9	22.8
	September	46.3	21.2	25.1
	October	55.1	24.0	31.1
	November	49.1	23.6	25.5
	December	46.2	22.1	24.1
1976	January	53.3	24.1	29.2
	February	52.3	22.6	29.7
	March	54.1	23.2	30.9
	April	53.1	22.1	31.0
	May	53.6	23.9	28.6
	June	51.8	23.7	28.0
	July	46.7	21.1	25.6
	August	43.8	19.5	24.3

Index of the volume of production

1970 = 100

1968		87	
1969		92	
1970		100	
1971		106	
1972		107	
1973		127	
1974		111	
1975		101	
		Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1975	1st quarter	92	91
	2nd quarter	104	101
	3rd quarter	96	101
	4th quarter	112	111
1976	1st quarter	116	114
	2nd quarter	115	112
1975	January	85	83
	February	95	97
	March	96	93
	April	103	102
	May	111	109
	June	98	93
	July	95	100
	August	89	99
	September	103	105
	October	116	110
	November	114	112
	December	105	110
1976	January	116	113
	February	118	120
	March	113	108
	April	115	114
	May	114	111
	June	117	111
	July	105	110
	August	96	106

Production of man-made fibres in August

In the three months ended August 1976 the volume of production of man-made fibres, seasonally adjusted, was estimated to have been 2 per cent less than in the three months ended May 1976. Total production by weight of man-made fibres in the period January-August 1976 was 12 per cent higher than in January-August 1975, output of continuous filament increased by 16 per cent and staple fibre increased by 8 per cent.

The actual figures allow for differences in the length of calendar months but not for holidays or other seasonal variations. The seasonally adjusted figures are based on the seasonal pattern up to the end of 1974, and may be subject to slight revision when the complete figures for 1975 are incorporated.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Activity in the textile and clothing industries

This article reviews activity in the textile and clothing industries during the first half of 1976. It is one of a series published at intervals in *Trade and Industry*.

Demand (table 1)

Consumer's expenditure on household textiles having risen sharply in the first quarter of this year, from the generally depressed level experienced in the last nine months of 1975, declined rapidly in the second quarter and returned to about the end-1975 level. The pattern of consumers' expenditure on clothing was similar although the movements, in particular the fall in the second quarter, were not so pronounced. Latest clothing and footwear retail sales information indicates that there was no significant increase in the volume of trade in the third quarter.

With home demand depressed, the textile and clothing industry is dependent upon overseas markets which, despite good first half results, appear to be steadying in line with the general easing in the rate of world-wide economic recovery. Some sectors of the industry, in particular high quality knitwear however, continue to find high demand in Europe and elsewhere.

Output (table 2)

The gradual improvement in textile output, evident in the last quarter of 1975 and the first three months of this year, was not maintained in the second quarter with production returning to the end-1975 level. This slackening was reflected in virtually all sectors of the industry with the second quarter falls being particularly marked in cotton weaving and carpets.

Latest information, however, indicates that textile production in the third quarter probably returned to about the January-March 1976 level and that the gradual recovery from the latest recession will

TABLE 1 Comparison of textile and clothing output with some factors affecting demand

Index numbers 1970 = 100 (quarterly figures seasonally adjusted)

								1974		1975				1976		Growth rate per cent per annum	Growth per cent 12 months ended
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	1969/75	Q2 1976/ Q2 1975
Gross domestic product at factor cost (expenditure based)	98.2	100.0	102.3	104.0	109.6	110.2	109.1	112.5	110.8	111.2	108.4	107.5	109.4	111.7	108.4	1.8	−1.3
Consumer's expenditure																	
All items	97.4	100.0	102.7	108.7	113.6	112.5	111.8	113.2	113.6	113.6	111.9	110.9	110.7	112.1	111.1 p	2.3	−1.7
Clothing	95.9	100.0	101.8	107.9	113.4	112.6	114.7	115.7	114.1	117.9	114.4	114.5	112.0	115.4	114.5	3.0	−1.2
Household textiles and soft furnishings	105.0	100.0	104.3	112.9	116.8	113.9	114.3	111.4	112.9	124.3	110.0	112.9	110.0	127.1	111.4	1.4	+0.6
Output of total manufacturing	99.6	100.0	99.6	102.4	110.9	107.8	101.4	109.6	105.6	106.1	100.0	99.9	99.8	101.7	102.7	0.3	−4.1
Output of textiles	100.2	100.0	100.8	103.0	108.6	99.2	93.8	101.3	92.8	94.1	93.6	92.7	94.8	96.7	94.5	−1.1	−0.8
Deliveries of made-up clothing	97.4	100.0	104.2	108.7	116.6	114.4	115.3	117.0	117.8	121.3	112.3	115.5	112.0	112.0	111.1	2.9	−3.8

p = provisional.

TABLE 2 Output

Index numbers 1970 = 100 (quarterly figures seasonally adjusted)

	1968 MLH	Weights	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1974 3rd qtr.	1974 4th qtr.	1975 1st qtr.	1975 2nd qtr.	1975 3rd qtr.	1975 4th qtr.	1976 1st qtr.	1976 2nd qtr.	Growth rate per cent per annum 1969/75	Growth per cent 12 months ended Q2 1976/ Q2 1975
Man-made fibres	411	14.5	91.8	100.0	106.1	107.2	127.3	111.1	100.9	115.6	93.5	91.9	101.7	100.4	109.5	115.9	112.8	1.6	8.9
Spinning and doubling on cotton system (a)	412	11.7	90.3	100.0	103.2	103.0	112.4	89.6	80.7	90.2	79.9	79.7	81.5	79.3	82.3	88.5	82.6	−1.9	0.4
Weaving of cotton and man-made fibres (b)	413 (part)	6.9	109.4	100.0	95.3	91.6	93.3	90.3	86.4	96.2	91.9	90.2	85.4	84.6	84.6	94.2	82.1	−3.8	−4.8
Woollen and worsted	414	17.6	109.6	100.0	93.0	97.6	97.7	86.7	77.7	88.4	79.4	80.4	78.2	76.3	75.8	78.5	79.7	−5.0	−4.9
Hosiery and other knitted goods	417	19.0	97.6	100.0	99.5	99.5	102.8	99.8	96.7	101.5	95.4	95.7	94.5	97.6	98.9	90.0	87.7	−0.2	−3.3
Carpets	419	8.0	99.0	100.0	107.8	121.7	125.8	115.5	111.0	114.8	113.9	115.1	111.9	109.0	107.9	113.5	105.3	2.0	−4.4
(Order XIII) (c)		100.0	100.2	100.0	100.8	103.0	108.6	99.2	93.8	101.3	92.8	94.1	93.6	92.7	94.8	96.7	94.5	−1.1	−0.8

(a) Includes texturing of man-made continuous filament yarns.
(b) Excludes linen.
(c) In addition to sectors listed above includes jute, rope, twine and net, lace, narrow fabrics, made-up textiles, textile finishing and other textiles industries. Their combined weight in the total index is 22.3 per cent.

TABLE 3 Production of man-made fibres

Million kilogrammes

								1974		1975				1976		Growth rate per cent per annum	Growth per cent 12 months ended
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	1969/75	Q2 1976/ Q2 1975
Staple fibre																	
Synthetic	135	170	166	177	221	196	178	53	37	37	48	44	49	52	53	4.7	13.1
Viscose and acetate	166	172	170	185	204	160	138	30	29	36	39	32	31	38	35	−3.0	1.5
Total	301	342	336	362	425	356	316	83	66	73	87	76	80	90	88	0.8	8.1
Continuous filament yarn																	
Synthetic	156	167	191	196	233	200	185	49	48	42	46	44	53	52	52	2.9	8.6
Viscose and acetate	97	91	85	68	73	72	63	18	15	15	16	15	17	18	18	−6.9	6.2
Total	253	258	276	264	306	272	248	67	63	57	62	59	70	70	70	−0.3	8.0
All man-made fibres																	
Synthetic	291	337	357	373	454	396	363	102	85	79	94	88	102	104	105	3.7	10.8
Viscose and acetate	263	263	255	253	277	232	201	48	44	51	55	47	48	56	53	−4.4	3.0
Total	554	600	612	626	731	628	564	150	129	130	149	135	150	160	158	0.3	8.1

continue although at a slower rate than originally anticipated. Nevertheless a general air of uncertainty still continues within the industry.

Production in the clothing industry having risen sharply in the first three months of 1976, did not maintain this improvement in performance in the second quarter with output falling to the mid-1975 level. Latest information indicates that output in the third quarter was probably at or about the April-June level.

Prices (table 5)

In the second quarter of 1976 the price of materials and fuel purchased by the textile industries rose 29 per cent above the level of the corresponding quarter of last year. This was partly the result of the hardening in the prices of raw cotton and imported wool, which increased by 70 per cent and 37 per cent respectively in that period. The scale of recent increaseses is now having an appreciable impact on manufactured product prices and both cotton and worsted cloth showed a 16-17 per cent rise compared with the second quarter of 1975. Of the other selected products listed in table 5, carpets exhibited the highest rate of price increase (21 per cent) against the average 14 per cent for all textile industry products.

Employment (table 6)

After two years of domestic decline, the mid-1976 figures record a slight rise in the level of employment in the textile and clothing industry, with the largest increase in the hosiery sector. A pattern of overall stabilisation was apparent throughout most of the industry, and this is thought to be attributable in part to firms taking advantage of the Temporary Employment Subsidy.

Overseas trade (tables 7-10)

In the second quarter 1976 the fast rising tide of imports of textiles and clothing, which had been the predominant feature of trade in the preceding quarter, showed some signs of easing. Levels were still considerably higher than in the corresponding quarter of the previous year – (by an overall £140 million or 38 per cent) – but the rate of increase had decelerated to 33 per cent between the first and second quarters 1976.

Improved export performance was a particularly encouraging feature of the second quarter's figures and it is notable that the yarn and fabrics sector registered an increase of 32 per cent (from £175 million to £231 million) when measured against the second quarter, 1975. Most of the major product groups recorded sizeable gains; notably woollen and worsted yarn, while cotton and mmf woven fabrics continued to move forward in 1976 after a prolonged period of stagnation, and carpets continued to climb slowly away from the depressed level of 1975.

Total export sales of made-up clothing and knitted goods were £88 million in the second quarter of this year which showed an increase of 60 per cent on the £55 million recorded in 1975. A notable feature of this improved export performance was the increase in the sales to the EEC; in the first nine months of 1976 the volume of made-up clothing and knitted goods was approximately 70 per cent higher than in the corresponding period in 1975.

Inquiries: 01–212 6787

TABLE 4 Consumption of fibres

Million kilogrammes

								1974		1975				1976		Growth rate per cent per annum	Growth per cent 12 months ended
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	1969/75	Q2 1976/ Q2 1975
In cotton spinning																	
Raw cotton	169	165	140	129	126	111	103	27	28	25	26	23	29	30	27	-7.9	2.8
Man-made staple fibre																	
Rayon	39	33	34	32	36	39	30	10	9	8	9	6	7	7	7	-4.3	-25.0
Other	23	32	36	34	37	30	30	7	7	7	8	6	9	10	9	4.5	17.2
In top making wool spinning and felting																	
Wool and animal hair	190	166	151	165	149	121	122	28	26	30	32	28	32	35	34	-7.1	11.2
Man-made staple fibre	80	84	77	86	105	103	86	25	24	24	24	18	20	22	23	1.2	-14.4

TABLE 5 Prices

Index numbers 1970 = 100

								1974		1975				1976	
	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.
Price index numbers of output (home sales):															
All manufactured products	93.4	100.0	109.0	114.8	123.2	152.0	188.7	156.1	164.9	176.0	186.3	193.4	199.2	206.9	214.4
Textile industries	96.9	100.0	104.9	112.2	131.7	162.2	178.6	166.5	170.1	172.9	175.7	180.7	185.1	193.0	201.1
Man-made fibre cloth	96.0	100.0	106.8	114.8	132.7	172.6	195.0	182.0	188.4	189.3	189.6	196.3	204.3	207.1	209.1
Cotton cloth	91.7	100.0	108.0	117.4	138.9	193.8	190.2	201.0	197.7	190.9	190.6	188.5	190.8	205.1	220.5
Worsted cloth	95.8	100.0	103.9	118.0	173.3	189.8	203.2	191.0	189.0	189.0	201.5	207.1	211.0	219.4	234.9
Socks, stockings and tights (inc. pantihose)	100.9	100.0	100.9	102.3	107.1	119.4	134.2	122.1	125.0	129.6	132.5	136.7	138.0	142.5	145.0
Knitted underwear and nightwear	97.1	100.0	104.2	111.1	126.8	154.7	178.5	158.7	169.5	174.1	175.4	182.1	182.5	190.3	201.3
Knitted outerwear	98.2	100.0	101.5	105.3	119.0	140.8	157.8	144.8	147.1	153.6	156.5	160.6	160.4	166.8	170.9
Carpets	96.6	100.0	104.9	111.7	130.2	153.1	177.8	158.8	161.6	169.5	171.2	180.2	190.5	200.2	206.6
Made-up clothing	96.4	100.0	106.4	112.3	119.4	138.3	159.4	140.2	146.7	152.6	156.3	161.9	166.7	172.0	175.0
Price index numbers of material and fuel purchased:															
Textile industries:	98.6	100.0	104.8	119.0	166.7	190.0	201.9	190.0	186.4	189.8	198.9	204.0	214.9	232.4	255.7
Commodities wholly or mainly imported:															
Raw cotton	96.4	100.0	112.9	116.6	204.2	229.5	196.9	212.9	182.3	165.8	188.6	209.6	223.7	264.6	320.8
Raw wool	112.4	100.0	94.9	156.3	332.3	250.3	120.7	232.2	195.7	194.0	208.9	212.1	227.8	250.4	286.1
Man-made fibres	98.5	100.0	103.1	103.6	105.8	137.9	156.9	149.5	154.1	152.7	152.2	159.8	162.8	166.9	173.4

TABLE 6 Employment in textiles (a)

Thousands

	MLH	Sept. 1974	Dec. 1974	Mar. 1975	June 1975	Sept. 1975	Dec. 1975	Mar. 1976	June 1976
Great Britain									
Textiles	411-429	542.1	525.4	503.1	493 9	487.6	483.7	482.4	486.2
Production of man-made fibres	411	38.4	36.4	34.8	34.0	33.9	34.3	34.0	33.5
Spinning and doubling on the cotton and flax systems	412	59.4	58.0	54.4	52.9	52.1	50.8	51.1	51.8
Weaving of cotton, linen and man-made fibres	413	47.0	46.0	44.5	43.6	43.5	42.5	42.4	42.8
Woollen and worsted	414	97.9	92.2	88.2	88.0	85.8	84.3	85.0	85.0
Hosiery and other knitted goods	417	126.2	124.6	117.6	115.0	113.1	113.1	112.8	115.4
Carpets	419	41.6	40.2	38.5	37.4	36.7	36.0	36.1	35.7
Textile finishing	423	49.9	47.9	46.2	45.0	45.5	45.9	45.8	46.5
Clothing	441-449	320.8	320.5	312.4	307.5	306.0	305.8	300.3	302.0

(a) Employees in employment at middle of each month.

TABLE 7 Crude trade balance (a)

£ million at current prices

	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1974 3rd qtr.	1974 4th qtr.	1975 1st qtr.	1975 2nd qtr.	1975 3rd qtr.	1975 4th qtr.	1976 1st qtr.	1976 2nd qtr.
Textile fibres (Division 26)															
Exports	101.8	96.4	87.3	108.1	172.1	201.8	183.5	48.7	37.0	43.2	52.1	41.3	46.9	57.6	64.8
Imports	210.4	183.9	150.0	213.7	322.4	310.5	263.4	72.2	56.6	56.1	74.2	70.4	62.6	101.2	113.7
Balance	−108.6	−87.6	−62.7	−105.6	−150.3	−108.7	−79.9	−23.5	−19.6	−12.9	−22.1	−29.1	−15.8	−43.6	−48.9
Textile yarns, fabrics, etc (Division 65)															
Exports	360.6	396.8	425.8	445.4	589.5	745.8	698.2	178.6	183.1	165.1	174.5	161.4	197.2	203.4	230.9
Imports	238.7	256.4	324.9	369.7	514.9	688.2	682.8	180.0	170.8	166.8	166.0	167.4	182.6	212.7	225.3
Balance	+121.9	+140.4	+100.9	+75.7	+74.6	+57.6	+15.4	−1.4	+12.3	−1.7	+8.5	−6.0	+14.6	−9.3	+5.6
Clothing (Division 84)															
Exports	108.5	123.1	129.5	144.3	179.6	230.0	265.5	66.2	68.7	52.5	54.8	75.2	83.0	74.1	87.7
Imports	124.5	129.4	178.2	218.8	333.6	402.4	505.1	102.5	92.2	111.0	125.1	130.7	138.3	158.3	166.4
Balance	−16.0	−6.3	−48.7	−74.5	−154.0	−172.4	−239.6	−36.3	−23.5	−58.5	−70.3	−55.5	−55.3	−84.2	−78.7

(a) Imports cif. exports fob.

TABLE 8 Imports

£ million at current prices (cif)

	Textile fibres (Div. 26)			Textile yarns, fabrics and made-up articles (Div. 65)										Clothing (Div. 84)		
	Man-made fibres, tow and waste (266)	Wool tops (262.8)	Total textile fibres	Woollen and worsted yarns (651.2)	Cotton yarns and thread (651.3 and .4)	Continuous filament yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Spun man-made fibre yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Cotton woven fabrics (652)	Woollen and worsted woven fabrics (653.2)	Man-made fibre woven fabrics (653.5 and 6)	Knitted fabrics (653.7)	Carpets (657.5 and .6)	Total yarns, fabrics etc.	Made-up clothing (841.1 and .2)	Hosiery and knitted garments (part* 841.4)	Total clothing
1969	15.3	3.2	210.4	2.6	9.1	38.0	4.8	58.0	7.6	36.4	9.6	18.1	238.7	68.8	49.0	124,5
1970	13.3	3.3	183.9	3.9	9.8	38.4	5.6	53.5	7.6	42.2	13.0	20.1	256.4	70.7	51.4	129.4
1971	16.9	2.8	150.0	4.1	10.2	54.2	7.3	70.4	7.9	57.1	16.6	22.0	324.9	99.6	68.8	178,2
1972	24.9	4.3	213.7	6.3	12.5	52.8	9.2	74.2	8.2	78.6	14.0	28.0	369.7	123.7	82.7	218.8
1973	35.4	5.3	322.4	11.0	15.5	70.7	17.0	103.5	11.8	115.3	12.7	41.4	514.9	197.8	112.3	333.6
1974	57.2	4.8	310.5	9.5	42.8	105.2	30.2	130.5	13.5	154.5	16.4	44.9	688.2	243.9	134.1	402.4
1975	45.5	3.8	263.4	11.1	28.3	92.2	28.7	125.7	16.6	167.2	18.5	49.5	682.8	307.5	166.7	505.1
1974																
1st qtr.	11.8	1.2	88.9	2.2	10.7	17.8	6.5	42.3	3.2	37.6	3.5	10.7	169.5	64.3	35.6	105.6
2nd qtr.	14.7	1.6	92.8	2.7	11.4	26.7	7.8	31.1	3.8	35.3	3.9	10.3	167.9	63.4	32.9	102.1
3rd qtr.	18.2	1.0	72.2	2.2	11.1	34.6	8.3	28.4	3.4	39.4	4.6	12.5	180.0	61.5	34.9	102.5
4th qtr.	12.5	1.1	56.6	2.4	9.6	26.1	7.6	28.7	3.1	42.2	4.4	11.4	170.8	54.7	30.7	92.2
1975																
1st qtr.	10.4	1.0	56.1	2.2	6.6	20.7	5.9	31.7	3.2	44.5	3.6	12.7	166.8	68.0	37.2	111.0
2nd qtr.	10.8	0.8	74.2	3.0	6.8	20.6	6.8	29.8	5.0	41.4	4.3	11.7	166.0	79.4	39.5	125.1
3rd qtr.	12.1	1.1	70.4	2.8	7.0	24.9	7.0	30.1	5.0	39.9	5.4	11.5	167.4	75.7	45.9	130.7
4th qtr.	12.2	0.9	62.7	3.1	7.9	26.0	9.0	34.1	3.4	41.4	5.2	13.6	182.6	84.4	44.1	138.3
1976																
1st qtr.	14.5	0.9	101.2	3.6	9.5	29.4	9.8	43.6	4.0	47.6	4.6	16.0	212.7	97.9	52.5	158.3
2nd qtr.	14.7	1.1	113.7	4.2	9.0	31.4	10.6	53.0	4.7	43.7	5.4	17.2	225.3	104.3	53.2	166.4

* Less 841.45
Source: Overseas Trade Statistics.

TABLE 9 Exports

£ million at current prices (fob)

	Textile fibres (Div. 26)			Textile yarns, fabrics and made-up articles (Div. 65)										Clothing (Div. 84)		
	Man-made fibres, tow and waste (266)	Wool tops (262.8)	Total textile fibres	Woollen and worsted yarns (651.2)	Cotton yarns and thread (651.3 and .4)	Continuous filament yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Spun man-made fibre yarns (part 651.6 and 651.7)	Cotton woven fabrics (652)	Woollen and worsted woven fabrics (653.2)	Man-made fibre woven fabrics (653.5 and .6)	Knitted fabrics (653.7)	Carpets (657.5 and .6)	Total yarns, fabrics etc.	Made-up clothing (841.1 and .2)	Hosiery and knitted garments (part* 841.4)	Total clothing
1969	42.3	26.6	101.8	23.3	11.4	53.7	7.0	28.4	71.3	27.5	21.2	37.3	360.6	58.5	34.1	109.5
1970	47.0	20.4	96.4	23.4	11.0	68.6	8.6	26.7	70.1	32.3	38.9	39.4	396.8	60.5	45.0	123.1
1971	45.5	16.3	87.3	23.3	10.1	80.4	9.6	28.6	62.8	31.6	54.4	43.5	425.8	61.8	49.0	129.5
1972	56.5	19.8	108.1	27.3	11.7	83.8	10.9	29.0	66.9	37.4	43.2	51.6	445.4	70.2	53.5	144.3
1973	77.7	38.1	172.1	37.0	17.0	110.0	18.6	39.5	91.5	49.9	43.1	78.2	589.5	86.9	68.0	179.6
1974	118.7	26.2	201.8	41.6	22.0	136.5	28.1	52.0	106.6	68.6	44.9	100.6	745.8	113.4	81.8	230.0
1975	101.3	28.6	183.5	37.5	18.5	112.8	23.3	46.9	92.5	68.2	44.3	94.9	698.2	137.1	89.3	265.5
1974																
1st qtr.	29.3	8.6	55.0	10.5	5.0	37.4	6.9	11.9	24.6	15.8	10.8	24.5	179.5	22.0	15.4	44.3
2nd qtr.	35.7	7.8	61.1	12.1	5.7	41.5	8.0	13.6	29.8	18.4	11.6	26.9	204.6	26.2	16.5	50.8
3rd qtr.	33.1	4.9	48.7	9.6	5.7	29.2	6.6	12.6	26.4	16.8	11.3	23.1	178.6	31.6	24.9	66.2
4th qtr.	20.6	4.9	37.0	9.4	5.6	28.4	6.6	13.9	25.8	17.6	11.2	26.1	183.1	33.6	25.0	68.7
1975																
1st qtr.	26.2	5.2	43.2	8.3	4.6	26.9	5.9	12.1	21.9	17.6	8.2	22.2	165.1	27.0	17.2	52.5
2nd qtr.	32.1	7.0	52.1	9.4	4.4	28.0	5.9	10.7	24.4	16.7	11.8	22.2	174.5	29.8	16.8	54.8
3rd qtr.	21.4	8.0	41.3	8.7	3.9	25.8	4.6	11.2	23.8	15.0	11.4	20.5	161.4	37.9	26.8	75.2
4th qtr.	21.6	8.4	46.9	11.1	5.6	32.1	6.9	12.9	22.4	18.9	12.9	30.0	197.2	42.4	28.5	83.0
1976																
1st qtr.	26.9	11.0	57.6	11.1	5.3	35.4	7.7	16.1	19.7	20.6	10.9	32.1	203.4	37.8	25.3	74.1
2nd qtr	30.3	8.9	64.8	13.7	6.8	39.4	8.5	16.6	27.6	22.2	12.5	34.7	230.9	48.2	28.5	87.7

* Less 841.45
Source: Overseas Trade Statistics.

TABLE 10 Imports of raw materials

£ million at current prices (cif)

	Greasy wool (262.1)		Degreased wool (262.2)		Fine animal hair (262.3)		Raw cotton* (263.1)	
	mn kg	£m	mn kg	£m	mn kg	£m	mn kg	£m
1969	171	73	64	26	15	14	162	43
1970	149	58	57	22	10	9	167	44
1971	99	33	62	21	9	5	142	41
1972	130	56	77	23	18	13	137	44
1973	95	93	56	55	15	26	171	66
1974	65	67	56	48	9	21	93	61
1975	84	58	48	37	11	22	113	59
1974 1st qtr.	23	26	..	13	2	5	28	18
2nd qtr.	20	21	..	15	3	8	27	18
3rd qtr.	16	13	..	13	2	4	16	11
4th qtr.	6	7	..	7	2	4	22	14
1975 1st qtr.	19	13	8	6	2	3	23	11
2nd qtr.	29	19	16	12	3	6	32	16
3rd qtr	20	14	15	12	3	6	32	17
4th qtr.	16	12	9	7	3	7	26	15
1976 1st qtr.	35	32	10	10	3	8	38	23
2nd qtr.	28	28	17	17	5	14	34	25

* 1969 includes small amount of carded or combed cotton.
Source: Overseas Trade Statistics.

Output in the wool textile industry

The volume of production in the wool textile industry (as measured by the seasonally adjusted index of production) in August 1976 was 2 per cent more than in August 1975. Statistics issued by the Wool Industry Bureau of Statistics show that in the period January-August 1976 woven fabrics (excluding blankets) were 10 per cent lower than in January-August 1975; deliveries of worsted yarns (excluding semi-worsted yarn) were 6 per cent higher. Production of wool and hair tops was 21 per cent more and that of man-made fibre tops was 4 per cent less.

Output in the wool textile industry

	Consumption	Production			Deliveries			
	Raw wool (clean weight)	Tops		Woollen yarn (†)	Worsted yarn (§)	Woven fabrics (excluding blankets) (‡)		Blankets (†)
		Wool and hair	Man-made fibres			Woollen	Worsted	
	million kilos					million sq. metres		
1968	177.5	96.6	36.4	147.4	98.2	135.8	110.6	27.3
1969	174.5	92.0	42.2	142.2	100.5	130.1	109.2	26.9
1970	153.1	79.7	44.6	129.4	97.6	115.5	99.8	24.6
1971	141.2	66.2	36.6	130.7	93.0	101.9	83.9	28.5
1972	152.3	75.1	45.9	130.9	101.6	99.8	83.7	28.8
1973	136.6	62.2	55.9	135.2	100.0	104.0	88.4	30.6
1974	112.6	43.9	54.8	122.5	87.2	92.1	82.6	28.1
1975	110.6	46.8	44.4	112.1	75.5	76.8	74.6	24.7
1975 1st quarter	27.3	11.2	12.8	29.4	20.4	17.7	20.7	7.6
2nd quarter	29.1	11.9	12.7	29.7	19.4	22.5	19.2	5.0
3rd quarter	25.5	11.4	9.2	24.6	15.7	19.8	17.1	5.7
4th quarter	28.7	12.3	9.6	28.4	19.9	16.8	17.6	6.4
1976 1st quarter	31.0	13.8	11.6	29.4	20.6	16.9	18.2	6.5
2nd quarter	30.5	14.5	12.1	27.9	20.3	19.6	16.9	4.4
1975 April	9.6	4.1	4.5	9.8	6.9	7.0	6.5	1.8
May	9.3	3.5	3.7	9.9	6.0	7.2	6.3	1.7
June	10.2	4.3	4.5	10.0	6.4	8.2	6.4	1.6
July	9.0	4.5	3.8	8.0	5.1	6.7	6.4	1.9
August	7.0	2.7	2.2	7.5	4.7	5.9	4.5	1.7
September	9.5	4.2	3.2	9.1	5.9	7.2	6.2	2.1
October	9.7	4.0	3.6	9.9	7.2	6.6	6.4	2.1
November	9.7	4.3	3.6	9.2	6.5	5.4	5.7	1.9
December	9.3	4.0	2.4	9.3	6.2	4.8	5.5	2.4
1976 January	10.0	4.5	4.3	9.5	6.4	5.1	5.8	2.6
February	9.6	4.2	3.2	9.2	6.6	5.3	5.9	1.9
March	11.4	5.1	4.1	10.7	7.6	6.5	6.5	2.0
April	10.4	5.0	3.9	9.5	7.0	5.7	5.5	1.5
May	10.2	4.8	4.6	9.3	7.0	7.0	5.6	1.4
June		4.7	3.6	9.1	6.3	6.9	5.8	1.5
July	9.9	4.6	3.8	7.1	5.9	6.1	5.6	1.5
August	8.7	3.5	2.8	7.7	5.3	6.0	4.6	1.7

(†) Estimated. (‡) Woven woollen fabrics include fabrics which are mainly woollen by weight of components and, similarly, woven worsted fabrics include fabrics which are mainly worsted by weight of components. (§) From January 1969 includes semi-worsted yarn: previously yarn of this type was not separately distinguished and the small quantities involved were divided between the woollen and worsted yarn headings. In August deliveries of semi-worsted yarn were 0.7 million kilos.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

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Production in the cotton industry

Statistics issued by the Textile Statistics Bureau show that in the period January to August 1976 the amount of cloth woven was 2 per cent less than in January to August 1975. Production of single yarn increased by 8 per cent and doubled yarn increased by 1 per cent.

Production in the cotton industry

Annual totals and weekly averages

	Single yarn (†)		Doubled yarn		Woven cloth	
	Cotton yarn (‡)	Spun man-made yarns and mixture yarn, inc. waste	Cotton yarn	Other	Cotton	Man-made fibre and mixtures
	million kg.				million metres	
1968	171.2	67.5	49.9	52.0	668.2	507.3
1969	166.2	73.2	46.8	60.9	661.5	538.1
1970	158.7	77.4	43.2	57.3	627.6	484.3
1971	133.0	83.3	85.0		559.1	479.8
1972	121.4	81.7	75.4		513.0	469.8
1973	115.4	92.5	82.1		453.2	502.3
1974	101.3	87.7	74.7		409.5	505.3
1975	94.4	76.4	68.4		405.4	503.0
1975 January*	1.8	1.5	1.4		8.2	9.7
February	1.9	1.6	1.5		8.8	10.7
March	1.7	1.3	1.3		8.3	9.7
April*	1.8	1.6	1.2		7.7	9.4
May	2.1	1.7	1.5		8.1	10.0
June	1.7	1.6	1.3		8.7	10.1
July*	1.5	1.1	1.1		5.4	7.2
August	1.9	1.5	1.3		8.0	9.4
September	1.4	1.0	1.1		6.4	8.8
October*	2.1	1.6	1.4		8.5	10.9
November	2.1	1.6	1.4		8.7	10.9
December*	1.5	1.2	1.0		5.7	7.8
1976 January	2.3	1.5	1.4		8.6	11.0
February	2.2	1.4	1.4		8.3	10.8
March*	2.3	1.5	1.4		8.3	10.5
April	1.9	1.4	1.2		6.6	8.7
May	2.4	1.7	1.5		8.0	10.5
June*	1.7	1.3	1.1		7.0	8.7
July	1.8	1.3	1.2		4.3	6.8
August	2.1	1.6	1.4		7.3	9.0

(†) Spun in the cotton industry. (‡) Including yarns wholly of cotton waste and mixture yarn of cotton and cotton waste. * Average of five weeks.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Hosiery and other knitted goods: index of production

In the three months ended August 1976 the volume of production of hosiery and other knitted goods, seasonally adjusted (including knitted fabrics), was provisionally estimated to have been 3 per cent less than in the three months ended August 1975.

The seasonally adjusted figures for 1976 are based on the seasonal pattern up to the end of 1974 and may be subject to slight revision when the complete figures for 1975 have been incorporated. The actual figures allow for differences in the length of calendar months, but not for other seasonal variations.

In using the index numbers shown in the table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months.

Hosiery and other knitted goods

1970 = 100

1968	88
1969	98
1970	100
1971	99
1972	100
1973	103
1974	100
1975	96

Including warp knitting

	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1974 1st quarter	91	97
2nd quarter	103	105
3rd quarter	97	101
4th quarter	108	96
1975 1st quarter	87	93
2nd quarter	95	96
3rd quarter	94	97
4th quarter	109	97
1976 1st quarter	90	97
2nd quarter p	94	95
1975 April	89	95
May	92	93
June	104	100
July	84	95
August	87	98
September	109	98
October	121	101
November	123	103
December	84	88
1976 January	85	101
February	94	99
March	91	91
April p	91	97
May p	96	97
June p	95	91
July p	84	95
August p	89	99

p = provisional.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Social Trends No. 6

Social Statistics are a vast topic; analysing the data available from the numerous sources can prove a formidable task. *Social Trends*, compiled by a team at the CSO from data supplied by all Government departments, is well established as the source of a comprehensive collection of major social and environmental statistics.

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Regional development grant payments

Companies which have received one or more payments of regional development grant of over £25,000 in the quarter ended 30 September 1976 are shown below. The table is drawn up on a regional basis according to the location of the premises in respect of which the grants were paid. The amounts shown against each premises are in some cases individual payments and in some cases the total number of separate payments each individually exceeding £25,000.

Lists of payments made in the quarter ended 30 June 1976 appeared in *Trade and Industry* dated 6 and 13 August 1976, together with a reference to the dates when earlier lists were published in *Trade and Industry*.

Name of company	Location of premises	Grant £'000
SOUTH WEST		
Cornwall Tin and Mining Ltd	Truro	85
ECC Quarries Ltd	Launceston	64
English Clays Lovering Pochin and Co Ltd	St Austell	412
Unigate Foods Ltd	Torrington	31
Western Excavating (ECC) Ltd	St Austell	83
Western Fish Products Ltd	Newlyn	119
EAST MIDLANDS		
Greystone Properties Ltd	Alfreston	34
WEST MIDLANDS		
Unigate Properties Ltd	Ellesmere – Shropshire	46
YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE		
Allied Breweries (UK) Ltd	Leeds	62
Allied Colloids Group Ltd	Bradford	56
Bass Ltd	Tadcaster	64
British Steel Corporation	Rotherham	689
British Steel Corporation	Scunthorpe	676
British Steel Corporation	Sheffield	1,452
ESB Universal Electric Ltd	Gainsborough	48
Fainfield Securities Ltd	Skipton	80
Firth Brown Ltd	Sheffield	36
Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Co	Barnsley	76
Guest and Chrimes Ltd	Rotherham	28
International Harvester Co of Great Britain Ltd	Bradford	54
John Foster and Son Ltd	Queensbury – Bradford	54
Johnson and Johnson Ltd	Gargrave – Skipton	35
Nypro (UK) Ltd	Scunthorpe	27
Racal Properties Ltd	Worksop	61
Reckitt and Sons Ltd	Hull	47
Redfearn National Glass Ltd	Barnsley	34
Richard Hodgson and Son Ltd	Beverley	27
Samuel Smith Old Brewery	Tadcaster	100
Templeborough Rolling Mills Ltd	Rotherham	30
Thomas Burnley and Sons Ltd	Cleckheaton	39
Winster Hose Ltd	Whitby	43
Yorkshire Chemicals Ltd	Leeds	65
NORTH WEST		
Albright and Wilson Ltd	Widnes	53
Associated Biscuits Ltd	Huyton	40
Associated Octel Co	Ellesmere Port	45
Barker and Dobson Manufacturers Ltd	Liverpool	41
BICC Ltd	Prescot	35
Birds Eye Foods Ltd	Liverpool	27
British American Tobacco Co Ltd	Liverpool	47
British Nuclear Fuels Ltd	Chester	213
British Nuclear Fuels Ltd	Preston	34
British Rail Engineering Ltd	Crewe	119
British Reinforced Concrete Engineering Co Ltd	Birkenhead	31
Burmah Oil Trading Ltd	Ellesmere Port	206
Cammell Laird Shipbuilders Ltd	Birkenhead	234
Continental (London) Ltd	Seaforth	514
Coopind Ltd	Bootle	44
Cosmopolitan Textile Co Ltd	Winsford	61
Croda Gelatin Ltd	Widnes	69
Crompton Nettlefold Stenman Ltd	Wigan	42
Electric Power Storage Ltd	Bolton	40
Electric Power Storage Ltd	Swinton	28
Fisons Ltd	Widnes	180
Flair Plastics Ltd	Warrington	28
Ford Motor Co Ltd	Halewood	914
Frederic Robinson Ltd	Bredbury	26
George H. Scholes and Co Ltd	Manchester	27
Golden Wonder Ltd	Widnes	28
Higsons Brewery Ltd	Liverpool	36
Ibos Finance Ltd	Widnes	82
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Hyde	31
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Lostock	48
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Macclesfield	32
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Runcorn	206
Imperial Group Ltd	Liverpool	51
Ingersoll-Rand Co Ltd	Manchester	57
Jackson Plant	Liverpool	35
J. and A. Jackson Ltd	Cheadle Hulme	52
John Dale Ltd	Skelmersdale	51
Koters (Liverpool) Ltd	Maghull	26
Leathers Chemical Co Ltd	St Helens	75
Leonard Fairclough Ltd	'S'	26
Lever Brothers Ltd	Port Sunlight	70
Lilly Industries Ltd	Liverpool	41
Lubrizol Ltd	Bromborough	140
Massey Ferguson Perkins Ltd	Manchester	35
Meccano Ltd	Liverpool	27
Merseyside Food Products Ltd	Liverpool	32
Metal Box Ltd	Bromborough	28
Metal Box Ltd	Liverpool	185
Metal Box Ltd	Westhoughton	442
Mobil Oil Co Ltd	Birkenhead	184
Nacanco Ltd	Skelmersdale	120
National Coal Board	St Helens	107
Northgate Group Ltd	Aintree	35
Olives Paper Mill Co Ltd	Bury	28
Pilkington Brothers Ltd	Lathom	30
Pilkington Brothers Ltd	St Helens	57
Plessey Telecommunications Ltd	Liverpool	31
Price's Chemicals Ltd	Bebington	115
R. G. Walmsley Ltd	Bootle	26
Ribblesdale Cement (Investments) Ltd	Clitheroe	30
Rolls-Royce Motors Ltd	Crewe	38
Shell Chemicals UK Ltd	Ellesmere Port	382
Shell UK Ltd	Ellesmere Port	250
Siemens Ltd	Congleton	34
Star Paper Mill	Blackburn	36
Trinity Paper Mills Ltd	Bolton	35
Turner and Newall Ltd	Manchester	91
UKF Fertilisers Ltd	Ince, Chester	289
Union Carbide UK Ltd	Old Glossop	44
United Biscuits Ltd	Liverpool	177
Urenco (UK)	Wirral	970
Van Den Berghs and Jergens Ltd	Bromborough	162
Vauxhall Motors Ltd	Ellesmere Port	128
Viota Foods Ltd	Bromborough	120
Ward Blenkinsop and Co Ltd	Widnes	62
NORTHERN		
A. F. Budge	Esh Winning	93
A. F. Budge (Contractors) Ltd	Esh Winning	183
Albright and Wilson Ltd	Whitehaven	508
Alcan (UK) Ltd	Ashington	84
Allen-Bradley Electronics Ltd	Jarrow	49
A. Ogden and Sons Ltd	'S'	54
Armstrong Cork Co Ltd	Stockton	417
Associated Dairies Ltd	Longbenton – Newcastle	175
Associated Electrical Industries Ltd	Birtley	45
Austin and Pickersgill Ltd	Sunderland	960
Aycliffe Development Corporation	Darlington	292
Bakelite Xylonite Ltd	Haltwistle	31
Barclays Export and Finance Co Ltd	Darlington	33
BBA Group Ltd (Scandura Ltd)	West Auckland	37
Bowater Scott Corporation Ltd	Barrow-in-Furness	33
BP Trading Ltd	Middlesbrough	423
British Industrial Plastics Ltd	Aycliffe	68
British Nuclear Fuels Ltd	Windscale	1,109
British Steel Corporation	Consett	388
British Steel Corporation	Hartlepool	282
British Steel Corporation	Hexham	31
British Steel Corporation	Middlesbrough	2,158
British Steel Corporation	Redcar	3,317
British Steel Corporation	Workington	240
Carr's Flour Mills Ltd	Silloth, Carlisle	34
Cleveland Bridge and Engineering Co Ltd	Middlesbrough	32
Commercial Plastics Ltd	Cramlington	30
Corning Ltd	Sunderland	62
Cummins Engine Co Ltd	Darlington	49
Doxford Engines Ltd	Sunderland	34
Dunlop Ltd	Washington	34
Dutton and Reinisch Ltd	Maryport	27
Eaton Axles Ltd	Darlington	59
E. Jopling and Sons Ltd	Sunderland	49
Electrolux Ltd	Newton Aycliffe	39
Ellay Enfield Tubes Ltd	Workington	32
Equipment Leasing Co Ltd	Darlington	87
Formica Ltd	North Shields	31
George Wimpey and Co Ltd	Workington	74
Glaxo Laboratories Ltd	Barnard Castle	38
Glaxo Laboratories Ltd	Ulverston	183
Glaxo Properties Ltd	Barnard Castle	31
Glaxo Properties Ltd	Ulverston	34
Henry Cooke Ltd	Milnthorpe	61
Hepworth and Grandage Ltd	Sunderland	25
High Duty Alloys Ltd	Workington	30
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Billingham	1,109
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Middlesbrough	4,540
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Stockton	47
Imperial Group Ltd	Newcastle upon Tyne	84
John T. Bell and Sons Ltd	'S'	47
Kimberly Clarke Ltd	Prudhoe	105
Lamson Paragon Ltd	Sunderland	39
Lloyds Leasing Ltd	Sunderland	80
Marconi Co Ltd	Gateshead	32
Merck Sharp and Dohme Ltd	Cramlington	56

Name of company	Location of premises	Grant £'000
MMB Creamery	Carlisle	83
MM Sales (Plant Hire) Ltd	Bishop Auckland	52
Monsanto Ltd	Middlesbrough	1,752
National Coal Board	Ashington	198
National Coal Board	Blackhall	41
National Coal Board	Blyth	67
National Coal Board	Easington	127
National Coal Board	Hetton-le-Hole	218
National Coal Board	Lynemouth, Morpeth	134
National Coal Board	Peterlee	112
National Coal Board	Seaham	202
National Coal Board	Sunderland	226
National Coal Board	Wearmouth	33
National Coal Board	Whitehaven	117
Norsea Pipeline Ltd	Middlesbrough	6,625
Northern Clubs Federation Brewery Ltd	Gateshead	44
Northern Foods Ltd	Middlesbrough	35
Oakbridge Plant Ltd	Esh Winning	90
Philips Electrical Ltd	Washington	84
Polyamide Intermediates Ltd	Middlesbrough	187
Raisby Quarries Ltd	Coxhoe	34
Reyrolle Parsons Ltd	Newcastle upon Tyne	50
Rohm and Haas (UK) Ltd	Middlesbrough	34
Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd	Sunderland	37
Rothe Erde (Great Britain) Ltd	Peterlee	37
Scottish and Newcastle Breweries Ltd	Newcastle upon Tyne	240
Sharfinch Ltd	Esh Winning	65
Shell UK Ltd	Middlesbrough	290
Shephard Hill and Co Ltd	Consett	56
Shield Packaging Ltd	Washington	36
Sidex Ltd	Wigton	59
Skingley (Cranes) Ltd	Middlesbrough	56
Steetley (MFG) Ltd	Ferryhill	46
Steetley (MFG) Ltd	Hartlepool	86
Sterling Winthrop Group Ltd	Cramlington	38
Sunderland Shipbuilders Ltd	Sunderland	33
Swan Hunters Shipbuilders Ltd	Hebburn-on-Tyne	51
Thorn Heating Ltd	Gateshead	76
Tudor Food Products	Peterlee	29
Vald Birn (UK) Ltd	Bedlington	37
Vald Birn (UK) Ltd	Blyth	78
Vaux Breweries Ltd	Sunderland	170
Vickers Ltd	Newcastle upon Tyne	43
William Browns Sawmills Ltd	Darlington	34
Wilsons Foundry and Engineering Co Ltd	Bishop Auckland	31
Wolsingham Steel Co Ltd	Wolsingham	129
Yates Circuit Foil Co Ltd	Carlisle	32
WALES		
Alcoa Manufacturing (GB) Ltd	Swansea	439
Associated Octel Co (Plant) Ltd	Amlwch	80
Beecham Group Ltd	Cardiff	29
BICC Ltd	Iscoed	51
Bowmaker Leasing Ltd	Pen-Y-Cae, Wrexham 'S'	54
BP Oil Llandarcy Refinery Ltd	Neath	497
British Airways Engine Overhaul Ltd	Pontypridd	62
British Leyland UK Ltd	Cardiff	25
British Steel Corporation	Cardiff	40
British Steel Corporation	Deeside	155
British Steel Corporation	Ebbw Vale	1,659
British Steel Corporation	Newport	72
British Steel Corporation	Pontypool	65
British Steel Corporation	Port Talbot	1,850
Brymbo Steel Works Ltd	Brymbo	110
Buckley's Brewery Ltd	Llanelli	27
Cambrian Castings Ltd	Aberdare	54
David S. Smith Ltd	Neath	28
Dow Corning Ltd	Barry	160
Esso Petroleum Co Ltd	Milford Haven	297
Eurodean Construction Ltd	Tredegar	26
Fibreglass Ltd	Cwmbran	726
Five Transport Co Ltd	Swansea	40
GEC (Radio and Television) Ltd	Hirwaun	45
George Wimpey and Co Ltd	Glyneath	264
George Wimpey and Co Ltd	Llanelli	240
George Wimpey and Co Ltd	'S'	127
GKN (South Wales) Ltd	Cardiff	468
GKN Somerset Wire Ltd	Cardiff	54
Gulf Oil Refining Ltd	Milford Haven	207
Hayward Civil Engineering Ltd	Chepstow 'S'	28
Hoover Ltd	Merthyr Tydfil	238
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Pontypool	26
International Nickel Ltd	Swansea	167
Jacob Beatus Ltd	Porth	25
J. R. Freeman and Son Ltd	Port Talbot	100
Kellogg Co of Great Britain Ltd	Wrexham	134
Laura Ashley Ltd	Carno	58
Lehane Mackenzie and Shand Ltd	Aberdare	229
Lehane Mackenzie and Shand Ltd	Bridgend	313
MBE Joint Venture	Llanberis 'S'	374
Mid Wales Development Corporation	Cwmbran	25
Monsanto Ltd	Ruabon	149
National Coal Board	Treharris	75
National Gas Tubes Limited	Tredegar	109
National Smokeless Fuels Ltd	Llantwit Fardre	29
Northern Strip Mining Ltd	Wrexham 'S'	61
O. G. Yemm (Metals) Ltd	Caerphilly	34
Parke Davis and Co	Pontypool	31
Porth Textiles Ltd	Tonypandy	32
Portland Chemicals Ltd	Cardiff	56
Sir Alfred McAlpine and Son Ltd	Pontardulais 'S'	103
Sony (UK) Ltd	Bridgend	156
Taylor Woodrow Plant Co Ltd	Dowlais	236
Texaco Ltd	Pembroke	59
W. Ribbons Ltd	Treorchy	26

Name of company	Location of premises	Grant £'000
SCOTLAND		
Abelson Plant Ltd	'S'	109
Aberdeen Service Co (North Sea) Ltd	Aberdeen	29
Air Products Ltd	Glasgow	70
Alginate Industries Ltd	Girvan	26
AOS (Shetland) Ltd	Shetland	30
Babcock and Wilcox (Plant Leasing) Ltd	Renfrew	154
Baker Oil Tools (UK) Ltd	Aberdeen	135
Barclays Export and Finance Co Ltd	Glasgow	66
Barclays Export and Finance Co Ltd	Grangemouth	36
Bernard Brogan Ltd	'S'	27
BOC Ltd	Motherwell	129
Bowater Packaging Ltd	Glasgow	46
Bredero Price (UK) Ltd	Edinburgh	73
British Airways Helicopters Ltd	Shetland	89
British Steel Corporation	Airdrie	110
British Steel Corporation	Bellshill	104
British Steel Corporation	Gartcosh	45
British Steel Corporation	Motherwell	675
British Steel Corporation	'S'	745
Brownlee and Co Ltd	Aberdeen	79
Brownlee and Co Ltd	Glasgow	70
Buchan Meat Producers Ltd	Turriff	28
Caird (Dundee) Ltd	Dundee	27
Caledonian Fish Meal Co (Aberdeen) Ltd	Aberdeen	66
Capital Leasing Ltd	Dundee	98
Caterpillar Tractor Co Ltd	Uddingston	148
Charles Moore (Bottlers) Ltd	Glasgow	29
C. H. Dexter Ltd	Duns	36
Chivas Brothers Ltd	Beith	238
Chivas Brothers Ltd	Clydebank	118
Chivas Brothers Ltd	Dufftown	190
Chivas Brothers Ltd	Keith	303
Chrysler Scotland Ltd	Paisley	26
Currall Lewis and Martin Ltd	Kirk O'Shotts	183
Darngavil Brickworks Ltd	Airdrie	75
Devro Ltd	Bellshill	286
Express Dairy Foods Ltd	Lockerbie	43
General Instrument Microelectronics Ltd	Glenrothes	49
General Motors Scotland Ltd	Motherwell	48
George Outram and Co Ltd	Glasgow	54
George Wimpey and Co Ltd	'S'	25
Glaxo Laboratories Ltd	Montrose	273
Govan Shipbuilders Ltd	Glasgow	842
Hailglen Plant (Midlands) Ltd	'S'	32
Hambros Bank Ltd	Airdrie	103
H. and R. Mitchell (Wemyss Bay) Ltd	'S'	35
HBP (By-Products) Ltd	Stornoway	31
Henry Balfour and Co Ltd	Leven	26
Hewden (Plant Hire) Ltd	'S'	38
Hiram Walker and Sons (Scotland) Ltd	Dumbarton	431
Honeywell Information Systems Ltd	Newhouse	92
Howden Compressors Ltd	Glasgow	37
IBM (UK) Ltd	Greenock	36
IBM United Kingdom Rentals Ltd	Greenock	62
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Dumfries	263
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Grangemouth	380
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd	Stevenston	97
Imperial Group Ltd	Glasgow	56
Imperial Group Ltd	Stevenston	122
International Distillers and Vintners Ltd	Mulben	285
Inveresk Paper Co Ltd	Denny	38
Jack Harvey Plant Scotland Ltd	'S'	37
James Bowen and Sons Ltd	Edinburgh	30
JMJ Contractors Ltd	'S'	526
John Brown Engineering (Clydebank) Ltd	Clydebank	40
John G. McGregor (Contractors) Ltd	'S'	29
John Walker and Sons Ltd	Glasgow	226
Kings and Co Ltd	Beith	58
Laporte Industries Ltd	Girvan	33
Letts Andersons Ltd	Dalkeith	30
Lombard North Central Ltd	Ravenscraig	28
Long John International Ltd	Glasgow	111
Magnetic and Electrical Alloys Ltd	Hamilton	34
M. and R. Martini Rossi Ltd	Banff	38
Martins (Dundyvan) Ltd	Coatbridge	215
Metrotect Ltd	Falkirk	28
Michelin Tyre Co Ltd	Dundee	129
Motherwell Bridge Engineering Ltd	Motherwell	38
Motherwell Bridge Engineering Ltd	'S'	30
Munro and Miller Fittings Ltd	Broxburn	29
Murphy Bros Ltd	'S'	26
National Coal Board	Alloa	31
National Coal Board	Cardenden	46
National Coal Board	Coatbridge	34
National Coal Board	Culross	46
National Coal Board	Glasgow	32
National Coal Board	Kirkcaldy	65
National Coal Board	Loanhead	26
National Coal Board	Ochil Tree	114
National Coal Board	Whitburn	28
North British Distillery Co Ltd	Edinburgh	28
North British Distillery Co Ltd	West Calder	30
Occidental of Britain Inc	Orkney	710
P. and W. MacLellan Ltd	Bo'ness	28
Polaroid (UK) Ltd	Dumbarton	78
Redpath Dorman Long (Contracting) Ltd	Methil	348
Redpath Dorman Long Ltd	Cambuslang	25
Rockware Glass Ltd	Irvine	76
Rolls-Royce (1971) Ltd	Glasgow	170
Royal Bank Leasing Ltd	Stornoway	134
Scotboard Ltd	Irvine	262
Scotstoun Marine Ltd	Glasgow	386
Scottish Aviation Ltd	Prestwick	97
Scottish Land (Plant Hire) Ltd	'S'	49

Name of company	Location of premises	Grant £'000
Scottish Malt Distillers Ltd	Montrose	37
Shirland Fireclay Ltd	'S'	68
Singer Co (UK) Ltd	Clydebank	30
SKF (UK) Ltd	Irvine	32
Smith Anderson and Co Ltd	Leslie	27
Stewart and Son of Dundee Ltd	Dundee	27
Strathleven Bonded Warehouses Ltd	Dumbarton	116
Syntex Pharmaceuticals Ltd.	Edinburgh	35
Tate and Lyle Refineries Ltd	Greenock	37
Tullis Russell and Co Ltd	Glenrothes	104
Tullis Russell and Co Ltd	Markinch	36
UG Glass Containers Ltd	Alloa	27
Union Cold Storage Co Ltd	Glenrothes	28
Uniroyal Ltd	Newbridge	31
Vibro Plant Ltd	'S'	37
William Collins Sons and Co Ltd	Bishopbriggs	73
William Halley and Sons Ltd	Dundee	33
William Hollins and Co Ltd	Glasgow	98
Williams and Glyns Leasing Co Ltd	Cardenden	69

Notes:
1 'S' indicates use in more than one premises or sites in a development area.
2 Total of payments listed above £68.4 million.
3 Total regional development grant paid in the quarter £102.9 million.

Regional selective assistance

The table below shows on a regional basis, the number and value of applications received and also the number and value of offers made under section 7 of the Industry Act for August 1976.

AUGUST 1976

	Applications received		Offers made	
Region	No	Value (£'000)	No	Value (£'000)
Scotland	17	4,545	8	601
Wales	12	1,106	5	237
Northern	20	3,566	14	343
North-West	14	1,768	13	125
Yorkshire Humberside	14	2,967	6	211
South-West	4	162	7	137
East Midlands	9	930	6	28
West Midlands	—	—	—	—
Totals	90	15,044	59	1,682

Index of industrial production for Scotland

Industrial production in Scotland in the first quarter of 1976 is provisionally estimated to have been just over 1 per cent below the level of a year earlier. The fall was marginally larger for the United Kingdom.

The index of industrial production for Scotland is provisionally estimated at 104 in the first quarter of 1976 (1970 = 100).

The first quarter figure suggests a rather less strong performance in Scotland relative to the United Kingdom over the preceding year than between 1974 and 1975; the revised annual estimates indicate that the fall in Scottish output between 1974 and 1975 was almost 2 per cent less than for the United Kingdom. This is consistent with other indicators of the Scottish economy in 1975 and early 1976.

Among the major sectors in Scotland over the year to the first quarter of 1976 the largest fall of 3 per cent occurred in construction. Manufacturing was down by almost 2 per cent whereas production in mining and quarrying, and in gas, electricity and water rose by 1 per cent and 5 per cent respectively.

Detailed analysis

Within manufacturing industry, which accounts for about three-quarters of total industrial production, the experience of different industries has diverged widely. Substantial falls of over 10 per cent from the first quarter of 1975 to the first quarter of 1976 are recorded in metal manufacture (down 18 per cent), vehicles (down 24 per cent) and other manufacturing industries (down 12 per cent). As regards increases, both the mechanical and instrument engineering group and the chemicals and coal and petroleum products group showed rises of over 10 per cent.

Production in metal manufacture fell steadily after 1973 to reach its lowest point (since 1970) in the third quarter of 1975. The latest two quarters provide some evidence that output was emerging from last year's trough.

The fall of 24 per cent in the vehicles index in the year to the first quarter of 1976 partly reflects the very low level of output from Chrysler's Linwood plant in the final quarter of the period.

The series for other manufacturing industries continued the downward trend evident since the peak of 1973.

Although the mechanical and instrument engineering group was still producing below its 1970 level, output had reached its highest point since 1971. The impact of North Sea oil work has been an important element in this recovery.

The other bright spot within manufacturing in the first quarter of 1976 was chemicals and coal and petroleum products. The industries in this group appeared to have overcome the worst effects of the recession.

Construction ranks second in importance to manufacturing among the four broad industrial sectors. Of the five constituent series which make up the construction index (private housing, public housing, other new work, repair and maintenance and work done by directly employed labour), only private housing has risen between the first quarter of 1975 and 1976. The largest fall in the same period has been in the public housing sector.

The buoyancy in mining and quarrying continues to reflect the influence of the upward trend in employment in petroleum and natural gas exploration and production (referred to in the article in the *Scottish Economic Bulletin* No. 10 published in July 1976). The 5 per cent increase in gas, electricity and water in the year to the first quarter of 1976 was partly due to an increase in the average daily supply of water used in Scotland.

The results for the latest quarter's figures should be treated with caution as they are liable to revision as later and fuller information becomes available.

Inquiries: 01-930 6150 ext. 282/345.

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Index of industrial production for Scotland: quarterly results

Quarterly series are not seasonally adjusted (1970 = 100)

1968 SIC	Total: all industries	Mining and quarrying	Manufacturing industries: Total: all manufacturing industries	Food, drink and tobacco	Chemicals and coal and petroleum products	Metal manufacture	Engineering and allied industries: Total	Mechanical and instrument engineering	Electrical engineering
Weight per 1,000	1,000	30	729	170	55	53	270	128	50
1970	100.0	100	100.0	100	100	100	100	100	100
1971	98.8	107	98.4	105	110	88	93	85	103
1972	100.9	95	99.5	109	122	86	90	77	111
1973	109.8	106	107.3	114	124	96	97	82	137
1974	107.4	98	107.9	119	132	90	101	82	158
1975	104.0	110	102.2	118	112	74	100	87	135
1973 1st quarter	109.1	103	104.0	107	117	98	97	81	136
2nd quarter	110.6	119	107.7	115	123	100	96	86	120
3rd quarter	104.5	104	102.8	115	126	92	88	76	129
4th quarter	115.2	98	114.6	121	131	96	107	85	165
1974 1st quarter	105.2	68	103.1	113	138	84	97	75	157
2nd quarter	110.2	113	111.7	119	141	98	105	86	156
3rd quarter	101.4	100	103.0	120	135	82	92	77	147
4th quarter	112.7	110	113.2	124	130	96	111	91	171
1975 1st quarter	105.3	109	102.6	113	115	88	101	87	135
2nd quarter	104.5	118	103.0	116	114	77	101	86	137
3rd quarter	97.6	93	97.3	119	100	64	93	84	123
4th quarter	108.6	120	107.8	124	121	68	106	91	144
1976 1st quarter	104.0	110	100.8	110	132	72	99	95	136
% change: 1975 Q1 on 1975 Q1	−1.2	+1	−1.8	−3	+15	−18	−3	+12	−5
% change: 1975 on 1974	−3.2	+12	−4.8	−1	−18	−18	0	+4	−10

Manufacturing industries (cont.): Engineering etc (cont.): Vehicles (incl. ships and aircraft)	Metal goods nos	Textiles, leather and clothing	Bricks, pottery, glass, cement etc.	Timber, furniture etc.	Paper, printing and publishing	Other manufacturing industries	Construction	Gas, electricity and water	1968 SIC
65	27	67	24	19	54	17	170	71	Weight per 1,000
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	1970
98	100	103	95	100	95	104	99	99	1971
89	111	107	102	108	94	108	104	110	1972
92	104	117	99	135	102	136	115	126	1973
89	111	105	98	121	91	113	100	123	1974
95	112	102	91	109	84	100	101	123	1975
96	102	116	94	129	98	122	114	152	1973 1st quarter
92	106	121	103	133	101	139	120	114	2nd quarter
77	99	109	97	130	98	139	118	89	3rd quarter
104	109	121	102	148	111	145	107	147	4th quarter
88	106	99	90	126	89	111	102	144	1974 1st quarter
99	113	113	102	130	95	113	105	108	2nd quarter
70	107	102	97	113	88	112	100	90	3rd quarter
100	117	106	102	116	93	116	95	151	4th quarter
94	117	97	97	114	86	106	97	151	1975 1st quarter
98	114	103	100	109	81	99	106	113	2nd quarter
86	99	101	77	95	79	95	104	90	3rd quarter
103	117	107	89	119	88	100	97	141	4th quarter
71	120	100	96	114	77	94	94	158	1976 1st quarter
									% change
−24	+1	+4	−2	−1	−6	−12	−3	+5	1975 Q1 on 1975 Q1
+7	0	−6	−1	−10	−13	−11	+1	0	1975 on 1974

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A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

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trends in invisible transactions	22 Oct. 1976
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